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**JOURNAL**

OF THE

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

OF THE

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;**

**BEGUN AND HELD IN THE TOWN OF RICHMOND,**

**In the County of Henrico,**

*ON MONDAY, THE SEVENTH DAY OF MAY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE.*

---

**RICHMOND:**

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

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1828.

THE JOURNAL OF THE

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

VOLUME 10

CHICAGO, ILL., JANUARY 1, 1913

Published by the American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

Subscription price, \$5.00 per annum in advance.

Entered as Second-Class Matter, June 26, 1901, Post Office at Chicago, Ill., under No. 102,362.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on July 1, 1918.

Postage paid at Chicago, Ill.

William Green. 1863.

## JOURNAL

OF THE

### HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*BEGUN* and held at the town of Richmond, in the county of Henrico, on Monday, the 7th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, in the buildings provided by the Public Directors, pursuant to the Act "for the removal of the Seat of Government."

On which day, being the day appointed by law, for the meeting of the General Assembly, the oaths required to be taken by the delegates were administered by the Privy Counsel to such of the members as appeared; after which they repaired to their seats in the House of Delegates.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock,

TUESDAY, May 8, 1781.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House :  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, May 9, 1781.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House :  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, May 10, 1781.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.  
Information being given to the House, of the approach of an hostile army of the enemy towards this place, from whose operations the deliberations of the General Assembly may be greatly interrupted, impeded or totally prevented;

*It is Resolved*, That this House be adjourned until Thursday the 24th instant, then to meet at the town of Charlottesville, in the county of Albemarle; and that letters be dispatched to the absent members, requiring their punctual attendance at that time and place.

# At the Town of Charlottesville, in the County of Albemarle ;

THURSDAY, May 24, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House ;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

FRIDAY, May 25, 1781.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House ;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

SATURDAY, May 26, 1781.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House ;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

MONDAY, May 28, 1781.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Beckley be appointed clerk to this House.

Mr. Richard Lee, a delegate for the county of Westmoreland, reminded the House of the necessity of proceeding to the choice of a Speaker, and recommended Benjamin Harrison, Esq. who had discharged the duties of that important office in several former sessions of Assembly ; and thereupon, Mr. Harrison was elected without opposition, and conducted to the chair, from whence he made his acknowledgments to the House in the following manner :

"GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for this farther instance of your favor and approbation of my conduct ; I shall enter into the duties of my office with diffidence, but will discharge them with diligence and the strictest impartiality.

"The critical and dangerous situation of our country, leads me to hope that my recommending it to you to dispatch the weighty matters that will be under your consideration, with all convenient speed, will not be taken amiss. The people expect, that effectual and decisive measures will be taken to rid them of an implacable enemy, that are now roaming at large in the very bowels of our country ; and I have no doubt, of your answering their expectations : the mode of doing it may indeed be difficult ; but it not being my province to point it out, I shall leave it to your wisdom, in full confidence, that every thing that is necessary for quieting the minds, and dispelling the fears of our constituents will be done.

"I am sorry to have it in my power to say, that I have of late observed the known and long established rules of the House broken through, on many occasions, and that such deviations have ever been attended with great delay in business and other bad consequences ; it will be my duty to inform you, if you should be at a loss in future, what those rules are, and I have my hopes that they will not be violated but in cases of absolute necessity, arising from the difference betwixt our present and former government."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes be appointed serjeant at arms to this House.

*Ordered*, That John Creagh and William Drinkard be appointed door-keepers to this House ; and that they give their attendance accordingly.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House to take into their consideration the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from his excellency Gen. Washington, respecting supplies of men, arms, ammunition, and clothing for the southern army ; which was read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker communicated to the House a letter from John Walker, Esq. addressed to his excellency the Governor, containing information respecting the enemy, and stating the desire of the honorable Major General Marquis



de La Fayette on the subject of impressing horses; which was read, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Page, Henry, Tyler, Nicholas and Taylor of Caroline.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating sundry matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to several letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof, which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee to whom the letter from John Walker, Esq. was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said letter under their consideration, and agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be advised to issue his warrant to the honorable Major General Marquis de La Fayette, empowering him to impress in the counties contiguous to the march of the enemy, all such horses as he shall think necessary for the use of the army under his command.

*Resolved*, That all horses taken under any impress warrant, shall be appraised in specie by two field officers to be appointed for that purpose, which valuation shall be paid in specie, or in paper money, at the real exchange.

*Resolved*, That impress warrants ought to be issued only to commissioned officers, and by them to be produced whenever an impress is made.

*Resolved*, That stud horses and others actually employed in moving the families or effects of the owners, ought not to be impressed.

*Resolved*, That the Marquis ought to be desired to have an exact return made to the auditors of this State, specifying the names of the owners, the amount of the valuation of each horse, and the uses to which the several horses shall be appropriated; and that proper certificates ought to be given to the persons from whom the impresses are made, expressing the valuation and the purpose for which such horses were taken.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, May 29, 1781.

*Ordered*, That William Hicks be appointed a door-keeper to this House; and that he give his attendance accordingly.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the insufficiency of the pay allowed to the militia while on duty, and the irregular manner in which they are called into service, (tours of duty not being fixed by law,) they consider as grievances; and praying that the Militia Laws may be so amended as to afford relief in those particulars.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend and reduce into one the several acts, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Henry, Page, Cabell, Taylor of Caroline, Strother, Talbot, Syme, Lomax, Morgan and Rucker, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

Whereas, a powerful army of the enemy are at this time inflicting upon our friends and fellow-citizens in the lower counties, all the miseries and calamities of war, and our forces at present in the field are inferior to those of the enemy, and an army of regulars sufficient to expel the invaders, and rescue our country from the dangers which at present threaten us all in a very serious and alarming manner, cannot now be assembled; and although the General Assembly have seen with much concern the many late demands upon the militia for service, on distant and fatiguing expeditions, yet reflecting that in the present critical and dangerous situation of the Commonwealth, there is no resource but in the virtue and manly exertions of our militia, and that before our army of regulars can be assembled, our country will be totally over-run and destroyed, and our liberty brought into extreme peril, unless our enemies are effectually opposed:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired immediately, and with all possible expedition, to order into service such a number of militia as will enable the commander of the army to oppose the enemy with effect, and that they bring with them such arms and ammunition as they can procure.

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired to order into service, from time to time, the necessary numbers of militia to relieve such as may be on duty, so as to make the service as little burthensome as possible to our fellow-citizens at large.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare an address to Congress, representing to them the present distressing situation of affairs in this State, and requesting their utmost efforts to procure us the necessary aids with all possible expedition.

*Resolved*, That all horses taken under impress warrants granted to the Hon. Major General Greene, and all horses and other necessities impressed for the forwarding the enterprize meditated against Portsmouth, which have not been returned to their respective owners, ought to be paid for; and that the auditors do adjust and settle all claims upon certificates duly granted for such impresses, and issue their warrants for payment thereof.

It appearing, that the prices allowed by the last Assembly for purchasing horses to mount the first and third regiments of dragoons have been insufficient;

*Resolved*, That the resolution of the said Assembly be repealed; and that the Governor, with advice of Council, be desired to take proper measures to mount the said regiments.

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, be desired to appoint an engineer for this State, with the rank and emoluments of a Colonel.

*Resolved*, That martial law ought to be established within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of our army, and that of the enemy.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to draw up a representation of our necessities, to be addressed to the executive powers of Pennsylvania and Maryland, asking an immediate aid of so many militia as their respective States can possibly spare, and such other aid as may be within their ability to furnish.

Whereas, the seat of war and present operations of the enemy are now transferred to the southern States; and the junction of several large bodies of British forces within this State, present a formidable army, against which every exertion of offence and defence should be applied;

*Resolved*, That a representation be made to the Hon. Major General Marquis La Fayette, by his excellency the Governor, stating the present state, quantity and condition of the public arms; the urgent reasons that appear for detaining the new levies now collected at Albemarle old courthouse, to oppose the invading enemy, until effectual exertions can be made for providing other means of defence, or the operations of the war shall, in the opinion of the Hon. Major General Marquis La Fayette, render it more advisable to detach them for southern service.

*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor, be requested to urge to the Hon. Major General Marquis La Fayette, that this State, under its present circumstances, can in no wise consent that the public arms in the hands of the said new levies, be sent out of the State; and that his excellency the Governor, do take measures for countermanding such of the public arms belonging to this State, as may have been delivered for that purpose, and of detaining them for the purpose of immediate defence.

The first, second, third, fourth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth resolutions, were severally read a second time. and agreed to by the House.

The fifth resolution, was read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The sixth resolution, was read a second time, and disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the first, second, fourth, ninth and tenth resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That addresses be prepared agreeable to the third and eighth resolutions; and that Messrs. Page, Taylor of Caroline, Nicholas, Tyler, Henry and Hardy, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the seventh resolution; and that Messrs. Page, Hardy, Tyler, Mayo and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts;" and that Mr. Richard Lee do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce into one, the several acts 'for regulating and disciplining the militia,'" be instructed to receive a clause or clauses, for amending the several acts of Assembly providing against invasions and insurrections.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, be discharged from proceeding on so much of the Governor's letter with its enclosures, to them referred, as respects the insufficiency of the present militia laws; and that the same be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce into one the several acts 'for regulating and disciplining the militia.'"

Mr. Richard Lee presented, according to order, a bill "concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts," and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for calling in and redeeming this State's quota of Continental money;" and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, Tyler, Cabell and Pride, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill,

and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, Tyler, Cabell and Pride, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce into one, the several acts 'for regulating and disciplining the militia.'"

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, May 30, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Major Nelson, on the subject of recruiting his corps of cavalry, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the commissioners of escheated property in the county of Prince William, respecting the sale of certain escheated lands in the said county; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by the sudden depreciation of the continental money, large sums are likely to be brought into the treasury to be exchanged, by persons not being citizens of this State and others, whereby great injury is likely to accrue to the State, in issuing the new money of Congress at a great depreciation, in depriving the State of a possibility of paying a late demand of Congress, and in preventing the citizens of this State from getting what money they may be possessed of redeemed:

*Resolved, therefore,* That the treasurer of this State be requested and advised not to exchange, or receive to exchange, for the money issued by a resolution of Congress of the 18th day of March, 1780, any continental money, as directed by an act of October, 1780, until the sense of the legislature can be had relative thereto.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That writs issue for the election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, for the county of Dinwiddie, an election having been omitted to be made in the said county, on the day appointed by law.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline presented, according to order, a bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline presented, according to order, a bill "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts, was read the second time;" and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the Governor be desired to employ a proper number of trusty persons as riders, to convey to him the necessary information concerning the state of the war in this Commonwealth.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A memorial of Robert Poage, Caleb Wallace, David Rice, William Read, John H. Holt and Joshua Early, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in their opinion the measures adopted for the prosecution of the war and the defence of the State have been founded on ill policy and conducted improperly; that they conceive a plan by which the State might be divided into districts, having a joint regard to the equality of property and the number of militia in each district, which district should furnish a soldier "*in perpetuo*," and supply him with sufficient arms and clothing, would be more eligible and better contribute to the security and defence of the State; and praying that the Legislature will countenance such a plan of defence.

*Ordered,* That the said memorial do lie on the table.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Saturday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth for the ensuing year; and also, of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of those who have resigned.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, May 31, 1781.

Another member having taken the oaths required by law, took his seat in the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Baron Steuben, with a representation of the present state of the Virginia line; which was read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Garrard have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts;" was read the third time;

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Augusta, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the requisition of men from their county under the late draft law is unequal and unjust, inasmuch as they are compelled to furnish a proportion of the deficiency of certain counties that have heretofore failed to raise their quotas; that any estimate formed upon the numbers of their militia, and not guided by the amount of property, will be unjust; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Cabell, Taylor (of Caroline), Pride, Page, Tyler, Strother, Nicholas, Hardy, Talbot, Digges, Lomax, Field, Lee, Mayo, Woodson, Morgan, Peyton, Campbell (of Washington), and Syme; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and to compare the same with the form prescribed by law; and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question touching returns, elections and privileges, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, from time to time to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections, to be heard at the bar of this House or before the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do, by themselves or by their agents, within a convenient time to be appointed, either by the House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members, or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members, giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters excepted to; and that the sitting members do, by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the like lists on their parts, to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tyler, Taylor (of Caroline), Pride, Nicholas, Hardy, Baker, McCarty, Lomax, Henry, Morgan, and Peyton; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters relating to Courts of Justice, and such other matters as shall, from time to time, be referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and to draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same to the House; and also to examine what laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session, or are near expiring, and report the same to the House, with their opinion which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Adam Craig be appointed clerk to the committee of Privileges and Elections, and to the committee for Courts of Justice.

It being represented to this House by Thomas Hughes, that an opposition has been made by some of the people of Augusta in arms, to a law passed by the last Assembly, and that Zachariah Johnston, a member for that county, hath been the principal instigator of such opposition:

*Resolved*, That an inquiry ought to be made into it, and that the persons most likely to give the necessary information, be called upon to attend on the eleventh day of next month.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing information be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That the letters, papers and information, respecting the accounts of Meriwether Smith, Esq. which were depending before the last session of Assembly, be referred to Messrs. Nicholas, Henry, Powell, Baker, W. Cabell, Talbot, Lomax, W. Moore, Field, Strother, Taylor (of Caroline), Woodson, Digges and Triplett; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That the letter from Major Nelson, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the corps of cavalry commanded by Major Nelson, ought to be augmented to the number of

sixty men each troop, and by two companies of infantry to consist each of one hundred men, properly officered; the officers to be appointed out of the supernumerary officers now in the pay of this State; the whole to be organized as a legionary corps.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Page, Henry, and Taylor (of Caroline), do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution which lay on the table for procuring horses to mount the first and third regiments of dragoons, and the same being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House as followeth:

It appearing, that the prices allowed by the last Assembly for purchasing horses to mount the first and third regiments of dragoons have been insufficient;

*Resolved*, That the resolution of the said Assembly be repealed, that the Governor, with the advice of Council, be desired to take proper measures to mount the said regiments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, June 1, 1781.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

A memorial of Edmund Pendleton and John Taylor, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have claim to certain lands in the State of North Carolina, which, before the extension of the boundary line, were supposed to be within this State; that they have obtained patents and other legal confirmation of their title, but that the said lands are about to be granted by the Assembly of North Carolina to certain settlers and residents who pretend a claim thereto; and praying the interference and a representation of the legislature on their behalf:

Also, a petition of Nathaniel Tally, executor, &c. of John Tate, dec.; setting forth, that he is guardian to the orphans of the said testator, and for their maintenance did, at the time there were no taxes in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, lease the lands for the term of eight years on the consideration of twenty-four pounds per annum; that the depreciation of money and weight of taxes now imposed will produce ruin to the orphans; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial and petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill, "to establish the corps of cavalry commanded by Major Nelson into a legionary corps;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also on the bill "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, June 2, 1781.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired, to day, to commission some fit person or persons as Brigadiers General, to command a corps of volunteers to act against the enemy on the present emergency; and that the said Brigadier or Brigadiers General be empowered and directed to appoint proper Field Officers, Captains, Subalterns and other officers to act in the said corps of volunteers.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor be desired to call for the immediate assistance of Brigadier General Morgan, to take the command of such volunteers, militia, or others, as he may be able speedily to embody, and



march to join the army under command of the Honorable Major General Marquis La Fayette; that this Assembly have the utmost confidence in the active exertions of General Morgan in the present emergency, and that the Governor do transmit to the said General so many proper commissions as may be necessary for the Field Officers, Captains, Subalterns and others, to be by him appointed.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to consider of the most speedy and effectual measures for procuring arms and military stores.

And a committee was appointed of Messrs. Henry, Nicholas, Page, Travis, Taylor of Caroline, Ronald and Strother.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, Nicholas, Peyton, Talbot, Campbell of Washington, and Triplett, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to establish martial law within miles of our camp and that of the enemy."

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing others from the county Lieutenants of Augusta, Rockbridge and Rockingham, respecting certain dissensions in the said counties, which were read.

*Ordered*, That the letters from the county Lieutenants of Augusta and Rockbridge, be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

*Ordered*, That the letter from the county Lieutenant of Rockingham, do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Campbell of Rockbridge, have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Caroline, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they see with concern, the many evils resulting from the toleration given to toryism and the too great indulgence of the laws toward people inimically disposed; and praying that some mode may be devised by which persons of that character shall be discriminated and compelled to leave the State.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, and of three Privy Counsellors; and also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

*Resolved*, That in case the enemy shall be in possession of this place on Monday next, this House do adjourn to Penn's Ordinary, in the county of Amherst, there to meet on the eleventh day of this month.

*Resolved*, That this House adjourn until Monday next, 10 o'clock; then to meet at this place, unless the enemy shall be in possession of the same.

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### MONDAY, June 4, 1781.

*Resolved*, That during the present dangerous invasion, forty members be a sufficient number to compose a House to proceed upon business.

There being reason to apprehend an immediate incursion of the enemy's cavalry to this place, which renders it indispensable that the General Assembly should forthwith adjourn to a place of greater security;

*Resolved*, That this House be adjourned until Thursday next, then to meet at the town of Staunton, in the county of Augusta.

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### At the town of Staunton, in the county of Augusta.

### THURSDAY, June 7, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Honorable William Fleming, a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, stating certain matters for the consideration of the General Assembly; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the President of Congress, enclosing sundry resolutions of that body, of the 22d instant, on the subject of supply; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Tuesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth for the ensuing year; and also, of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of those who have resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of Mann Page, Esq. one of the executors of John Tayloe, Esq. deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that Will, a negro man slave, belonging to the estate of the testator, was condemned to suffer death for treason, by the judgment of Prince William county court, which sentence the petitioner considers as illegal, because a slave cannot commit treason; that by the Constitution, the power of granting a pardon for that offence is reserved to the legislature; and praying that the said slave may be pardoned.

*Ordered*, That the said petition, be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes;" and that Mr. Page do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### FRIDAY, June 8, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from John Walker, Esq. to his excellency the Governor, respecting the removal of the public stores; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A bill, "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House immediately.

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, presented according to order, a bill "for establishing martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army or the enemy's camp;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for raising two legions for the defence of the State;" and that Mr. Page do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are greatly injured by the present mode for regulating impresses, inasmuch, as the certificates granted them for property taken for public use are refused to be received or allowed by the sheriffs, collectors, public treasurer and auditors; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for raising two legions for the defence of the State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and that Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill "to establish the corps of cavalry commanded by Maj. Nelson into a legionary corps;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, presented according to order, a bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, June 9, 1781.

A bill, "for establishing martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army or the enemy's camp;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'for raising two legions for the defence of this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Mann Page, one of the executors of the will of John Tayloe, Esq. deceased, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the record and proceedings of the court of Prince William county, that Billy, alias Will, alias William, a mulatto slave belonging to the estate of the said John Tayloe, deceased, was, before the said court, indicted for treason and sentenced to be hanged.

It also appears to your committee, that upon application being made to his excellency Thomas Jefferson, Esq. then then Governor of Virginia, a reprieve was obtained for the said slave till the last day of the present month.

It farther appears to your committee, that the indictment and proceedings thereon against the said slave were illegal.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Mann Page, executor as aforesaid, praying that the said mulatto slave Billy, alias Will, alias William, may be pardoned, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the memorial of Edmund Pendleton and John Taylor, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the said memorial as prays, that another and more pointed representation may be made to the General Assembly of North Carolina, in support as well of their title, as the title of others, circumstanced as they are, to lands which, previous to the late extension of the boundary line between this State and that of North Carolina, were supposed to be in this Commonwealth, but since proved to lie in the said State of North Carolina, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said memorial as pray, that a public agent may be appointed to present the same to the General Assembly of the said State of North Carolina, and receive their final answer thereupon, is reasonable; and that the Governor, with advice of Council, be authorised and required to appoint such agent.

*Ordered,* That a representation be prepared pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That the second resolution do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for establishing the corps of cavalry, commanded by Major Nelson, into a legionary corps," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.



SUNDAY, June 10, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House do adjourn until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock, then to meet in this place; but if there shall appear danger in so doing, from the enemy, that then this House be adjourned until Thursday next, then to meet at the Warm Springs in this county, at which time and place, if a sufficient number of members to adjourn the House should fail to appear, the Speaker is invested with power, as well to adjourn the House from day to day, as to appoint, in case of necessity, any other time and place for the meeting of this House, as to him shall seem adviseable.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, June 11, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House two letters addressed to his excellency the Governor, from Col. John Gibson and Mr. William Harrison, respecting their claims upon the public, for supplies to the regiment under command of the said Col. John Gibson, and for provisions furnished for the expedition under General Clarke; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the commercial agent be desired without delay, to purchase such arms, ammunition, and military stores, as the State is in want of, and that the said agent be assured that every resource of the State shall be called forth, if necessary, to make punctual payment for the same.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Speaker, upon receiving certain information of any member of this House being a prisoner to the enemy, be directed to issue a writ for the election of a member in the room of such prisoner.

And the said resolution being read a second time, was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, prepared a representation to the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

The Assembly of Virginia, although no notice hath been taken of two representations heretofore made to the legislature of North Carolina, will not yet entertain an idea that the neglect proceeds from any fixed intention of doing injustice; they do, therefore, once more warmly solicit the legislature of North Carolina, to make a provision for those persons who have obtained titles to lands supposed to be in Virginia, but which are now likely to fall in the State of North Carolina; and must at the same time observe, that they shall be compelled by every motive of public policy, and of that protection due to their citizens, to refuse their assent to the establishment of any boundary line, until this their request, so consonant to the principles of the confederation, the bonds of good neighborhood, and the rights of mankind, be complied with. How is it that the State of North Carolina have claimed their territory by charters from the King of England, and yet deny efficacy to patents derived from the same source? If these charters are valid to define the limits of States, are not patents which possess the same foundation valid to prescribe the bounds of private ownership? If the legislature of North Carolina, should explode the authority of these patents, they may draw themselves into a disagreeable predicament with respect to the United States, which needs only to be hinted at, to be understood. But if the Indian title is the only good one, then both Virginia positively claim the lands in dispute, by virtue of a purchase from the Cherokees in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy, by the express permission of the Crown; the bounds of which purchase, and not the late extended line, must be the mark of territory between the two States. Indeed, Virginia built Fort Patrick Henry, for the express defence of this land so purchased of the Cherokees. The Assembly of Virginia do not wish the legislature of North Carolina, to act in a judicial capacity, by saying that the title of any individual is to be preferred, but they ask them to establish the best Virginia title, in whomsoever it may be placed, and to direct that the laws and usages of Virginia, heretofore made, shall be the rule of determination, leaving the several claimants to prosecute their titles in the usual channels. This proposition was made by the Assembly of Virginia before it was known in what manner a line extended by the King of England's charters would affect these claimants; which proves that it was not the effect of any partial motive. The Assembly of Virginia hope, whatever may be the result of this representation, that it will not go unnoticed as the others have done, but that the legislature of North Carolina will favor them with their determination, till which, the Assembly of Virginia will postpone all farther measures of this business.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the representation to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill

"to amend the act, 'for raising two legions for the defence of the State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to proceed to-morrow, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate, for the ensuing year; and also, of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of those who have resigned. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be ballotted for as Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, for the ensuing year; and also, of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the lists of the persons so nominated, to the Senate.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, for one year from the first Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution to direct the treasurer not to receive in exchange at the treasury, the old continental money, until the future order of the legislature; they have also agreed to the resolution for calling Brigadier General Morgan into service. And then he withdrew.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for establishing the corps of cavalry commanded by Major Nelson, into a legionary corps," being read;

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the same be put off until the tenth day of the next session of Assembly,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for establishing martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army, or of the enemy's camp;" and on the bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, June 12, 1761.

The Speaker laid before the House several letters from the Hon. Major General Marquis La Fayette, commanding the army in this State, stating sundry matters for the consideration of the General Assembly; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the members of the Executive Council be desired to call immediately into service, as many of the militia as can be properly armed and accoutred; and that they do join the army under the Marquis La Fayette as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That as many of the men called out under the foregoing resolution, as conveniently can, ought to be mounted and supplied with as much provision as they can carry.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to proceed to-morrow, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year from the first Monday in November next; they have added the names of sundry persons to the nomination for a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, and of three members of the Privy Council; also, they have agreed to the resolution, respecting the impress of horses for public service; and they have agreed to the bill "concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by General Stevens:



MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for calling forth a body of militia to reinforce the army under command of the Marquis La Fayette. And then he withdrew.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth for the ensuing year; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Nicholas, Page, Lee, Burwell, Dulaney and M<sup>c</sup>Cartey, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom a majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq.

*Resolved*, That Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. be appointed Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth for one year, he having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See infra.*

*Resolved*, That at the next session of Assembly an inquiry be made into the conduct of the Executive of this State for the last twelve months.

The Speaker made his resignation to the House, of his appointment to be a delegate to represent this State in Congress until the first day of November next; which was accepted.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Page, Tyler, Travis, Lee and Mountjoy, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of William Cabell, Samuel Hardy and Samuel M<sup>d</sup>Dowell, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That William Cabell, Samuel Hardy and Samuel M<sup>d</sup>Dowell, Esquires, be appointed members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of those who have resigned, they having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See infra.*

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive be desired to present to Captain John Jouett, an elegant sword and pair of pistols, as a memorial of the high sense which the General Assembly entertain of his activity and enterprize, in watching the motions of the enemy's cavalry on their late incursion to Charlottesville, and conveying to the Assembly timely information of their approach, whereby the designs of the enemy were frustrated, and many valuable stores preserved.

And the said resolution being read a second time, was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be ballotted for as delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year from the first day of November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry lists of the persons so nominated, to the Senate.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved* That the Executive be desired to purchase for General Edward Stevens, an elegant gelding, to replace one lost by him in the battle at Guilford courthouse; and also a set of furniture.

And the said resolution being read a second time, was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Honorable Major General Marquis La Fayette, be empowered to impress such, and so many horses for the public service as he may find necessary.

And the said resolution being read a second time, was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Honorable Major General Marquis La Fayette, be empowered to dispose of the public arms and ammunition, by ordering the same to be delivered to the well-affected citizens at large, or otherwise, as he may judge most conducive to the public safety.

And the said resolution being read a second time, was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution appointing Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. Governor of the Commonwealth; and to the resolution appointing Wm. Cabell, Samuel Hardy and Samuel M<sup>d</sup>Dowell, Esquires, members of the Privy Council or Council of State. And then he withdrew.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Thursday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress until the first day of November next, in the room of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for establishing martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp;" and "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, June 13, 1781.

An engrossed bill, "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for raising two legions for the defence of the State,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act 'for raising two legions for the defence of the State.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law;" and that Mr. Page do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution which lay on the table, respecting the election of members to this House, in the room of those who may be made prisoners to the enemy; and the same being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the Speaker, upon receiving information of any member of this House being a prisoner to the enemy, be directed to issue a writ for the election of a member to serve during the captivity of such prisoner.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for declaring martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army or enemy's camp;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution to empower the Marquis de La Fayette to impress horses for the public service; also, they have added the names of two other persons to the nomination of delegates to represent this State in Congress. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to nominate a person proper to be ballotted for, as a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the first Monday in November next, in the room of Benjamin Harrison, Esquire, who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in November next; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Taylor, Page, Henry, Talbot, and Joel Watkins, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of James Madison, Edmund Randolph, Joseph Jones, Theoderick Bland and John Blair, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That James Madison, Edmund Randolph, Joseph Jones, Theoderick Bland and John Blair, Esquires, be appointed delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *Dec 1. 18.*

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and after some time spent therein, Mr.



Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## THURSDAY, June. 14, 1781.

A bill "to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the conduct of Zachariah Johnston, upon the information of Thomas Hughes against him, for being the principal instigator of an opposition which has been made by some of the people of Augusta in arms to a law, passed by a former Assembly; and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the testimony of various witnesses, that Zachariah Johnston hath uniformly recommended to the people of the county of Augusta, an obedience to the law "for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army;" and did by no means instigate them to an opposition to the said law.

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said information is groundless.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the representation to the General Assembly of North Carolina; also, they have agreed to the resolutions, that the commercial agent purchase necessary arms and ammunition; for granting a pardon to a negro slave, for treason; for presenting a gelding and furniture to Brigadier General Stevens, to compensate his loss at the battle of Guilford; to proceed this day by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a delegate to Congress, in the room of Benjamin Harrison, Esq.; and also, for presenting a sword and pair of pistols to Captain John Jouett, with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do acquaint the Senate therewith.

William Cabell, Esq. made his resignation to the House of his appointment to be a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, which was accepted.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

It appearing to the House, that Meriwether Smith, Esq. one of the delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, hath failed to comply with an order of the House made at the last session, for his appearance at the present session on the subject of his public accounts, although he hath received timely official notice of such order;

*Resolved*, That the said Meriwether Smith, Esq. be superseded in his said appointment, as one of the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of John Poage, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is greatly distressed by a judgment obtained against him as high sheriff of Augusta county, for the default of his deputy, who was robbed; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Johnson, Henry, Taylor of Caroline, Page and Tyler; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce into one, the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections," be discharged therefrom.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act 'for regulating and disciplining the militia';" and that Messrs. Page, Henry, Cabell, Joel Watkins, Johnson, Campbell of Washington, Talbot, Southall and Dulaney, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That William Campbell, Esq. be appointed a Brigadier General in the militia of this Commonwealth, and that the Governor elect do commission him accordingly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mountjoy reported the proceedings of the commissioners appointed by law, to ascertain the centre of the county of Stafford; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table.

*Ordered*, That the said proceedings be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for establishing martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution appointing James Madison, Edmund Randolph, Joseph Jones, Theoderick Bland and John Blair, Esquires, delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress; they have no person to add to the nomination of a delegate, in the room of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. and are willing that Edmund Randolph, Esq. be appointed in his room without the formality of a ballot. And then he withdrew.

*Resolved*, That Edmund Randolph, Esq. be appointed a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress until the first Monday in November next, in the room of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *June 15.*

The House proceeded to consider the resolution reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, which lay on the table, respecting the memorial of Edmund Pendleton and John Taylor, Esquires, to them referred; and the same being again twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the memorial of the said Edmund Pendleton and John Taylor, Esquires, as pray that a public agent may be appointed to present the said representation to the General Assembly of the said State of North Carolina and receive their final answer thereupon, is reasonable; and that the Governor with advice of Council, be authorised and required to appoint such agent.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also, on all prizes;" also, they have agreed to several resolutions for calling forth and relieving the militia; respecting the impress of horses for the army; that the Governor employ riders to convey intelligence; to stay certain public arms and the new levies from being sent out of the State; and for mounting the cavalry of the first and third regiments of dragoons; and they do insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House to the resolution respecting Captain John Jouett. And then he withdrew.

The said amendment being again read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement thereto.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockbridge, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the execution of the law for drafting soldiers for the continental army will be very oppressive and burthensome to the petitioners; and praying that the said law may be amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY, June 15, 1781.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing martial law within \_\_\_\_\_ miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, for establishing martial law, within twenty miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



An engrossed bill, "to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of rider, to prevent the treasurer from paying out the money emitted agreeable to the resolutions of Congress, of the 18th of March, 1780, except by the directions of the executive or the legislature; and the said engrossed clause being severally read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to be added to the said bill by way of rider.

*Resolved*, That the bill, together with its rider, do pass; and that the title be, "an act for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of the laws;" and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, Henry, Baker, Tyler and Morgan, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That such poor inhabitants of the counties of Lincoln, Fayette and Jefferson, as have not yet been able to procure lands there, ought to be permitted to take up and locate such quantities of vacant land as may suffice them for settlements and plantations, not exceeding four hundred acres for one family; and that such poor inhabitants now actually resident in the Kentucky country ought to have two years credit for the said land, paying for the same twenty shillings specie per hundred acres, or the value thereof in paper money, besides office fees.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That thousand men ought to be raised for completing this State's quota of continental troops, by voluntary enlistments throughout the State at large.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the men so raised be enlisted for the term of two years, or during the war.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that Messrs. Page, Henry, Logan, Greene and McCartney, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the second and third resolutions; and that Messrs. Henry, Tyler, Cabell, Field, Holmes, Lomax, Taylor of Caroline, Moore, Peyton, William Campbell, Strother, Pride and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution appointing Edmund Randolph, Esq. a delegate to Congress in the room of Benjamin Harrison, Esq.; also to the resolution appointing William Campbell, Esq. a brigadier general; and they do recede from their amendment to the resolution for presenting Capt. Jouett with a sword and pistols. And then he withdrew.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Cabell, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate the department of the War Office;" and that Messrs. Page, Dulaney, and William Campbell, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, presented, according to order, a bill "for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for calling upon the deficient counties in this State who have not furnished their respective quotas of men under any law, since the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and for punishing such officers as were entrusted with the execution of the said laws and have abused that trust;"

and that Messrs. Andrew Moore, Charles Campbell, Cravens, Steele, Launkford, Morgan, Lee, Joel Watkins, Holmes, Smith and Bell, do prepare and bring in the same.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, June 16, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Hon. Cyrus Griffin, on the subject of his public accounts as a delegate of this State in Congress; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee to whom the petition of John Poage was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said petition under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that James Graham, deputy sheriff for the county of Augusta, was robbed of the sum of thirty-five thousand pounds, being the tax money of the said county, on his way to the treasury, and that a judgment hath been entered upon against John Poage, the sheriff of the said county, for the sum of thirty-five thousand three hundred and forty-five pounds five shillings, on account of the said money so stolen, and not paid into the treasury.

*Resolved, therefore,* That the said petition is reasonable; but that the final determination thereon ought to be postponed to the next session of Assembly; and in the mean time, that the public solicitor be directed not to take out an execution on the said judgment.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to proceed, on Monday next, to the choice of a Privy Counsellor in the room of William Cabell, Esq.; also, they have agreed to the resolution for appointing an agent to present the representation of this Assembly to the Assembly of North Carolina; and they have agreed to the bill "for establishing martial law within twenty miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp," with several amendments; and to the bill "to amend the act, 'for raising two legions for the defence of the State,'" with several amendments; to which amendments they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law." And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases;" and that Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Campbell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, presented, according to order, a bill "preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be ballotted for as a member of the Privy Council, or Council of State, in the room of William Cabell, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Page do carry a list of the persons so nominated to the Senate.

A bill, "preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia,'" being read,

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.



MONDAY, June 18, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Hon. Major General Marquis La Fayette, respecting the present state and movements of the army under his command; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from his excellency Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. containing his acknowledgments for the honor of his appointment as Governor of the Commonwealth; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from John Walker, Esq. respecting his endeavors for the removal and security of certain public stores; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Brigadier General Morgan, enclosing several letters and other papers on the subject of levying a body of volunteers and militia to join the army: which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a committee for enrolled bills be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Pride, Cabell, Tyler, Baker, Greene, Morgan and Lomax; and they are to examine such enrolled bills as shall, from time to time, be referred to them, and report the same to the House.

An engrossed bill, "for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, for raising two legions for the defence of the State;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for establishing martial law within twenty miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "for regulating the department of the War Office;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the treasurer to emit a further sum of money;" and that Mr. Tyler do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government;" and that Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, for regulating and disciplining the militia;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; they do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing martial law within twenty miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp;" and they are satisfied with the nomination for a Privy Counsellor in the room of William Cabell, Esq. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council, or Council of State, in the room of William Cabell, Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Cabell, Page and Strother, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of John Walker, Esq.

*Resolved*, That John Walker, Esq. be appointed a member of the Privy Council, or Council of State, in the room of William Cabell, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See p. 23.*

Mr. Taylor of Caroline presented, according to order, a bill "for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that sundry of the inhabitants of the said county of Henry, as well as many other inhabitants of the several counties throughout this Commonwealth, have labored under many hardships and inconveniences from the mode which has lately been pursued in impressing their property; insomuch, that many families have been left without provisions necessary for their subsistence; and that the certificates given for property so impressed, the auditors of public accounts will not grant warrants upon, neither will the different sheriffs receive the same in discharge of taxes.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the said county of Henry, praying relief, is reasonable; and that courts for receiving public claims on account of impresses made by any persons for provisions and other necessities for public service, ought to be held forthwith; and that such courts be composed of justices in the commission of the peace as formerly, and make report of their proceedings to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "for regulating the department of the War Office," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bill "preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, June 19, 1781.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the treasurer to emit a farther sum of money;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House two letters from Richard Claiborne, Esq. deputy continental quarter-master in this State, representing the state of that department; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Hon. William Fleming, Esq. a member of the Executive Council, enclosing one from the President of Congress, together with a state of the national debt and an estimate of the expenses of the current year; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That all horses impressed for the use of the army, by order of the Marquis La Fayette, Major General Baron Steuben, or General Nelson, ought to be paid for by the treasurer of this Commonwealth, by warrant from the auditors of public accounts.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate to, the bill, "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That the letter from the commissioners of escheated property in the county of Prince William, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "giving further time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax;" and that Mr. Smith do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army, was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Pittsylvania, was presented to the House, and read; setting



forth, that they will be greatly aggrieved by the execution of the law for draught soldiers for the continental army; and praying to be relieved therefrom.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "preventing a discontinuance of the General Court and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Smith presented, according to order, a bill "giving further time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, an address to the Congress of the United American States; which was read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, entitled, "an act to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States and of their Allies with grain and flour;" which expired on the fourteenth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, ought to be revived.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1778, entitled "an act, to amend an act 'for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues,'" which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1778, entitled "an act to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1778, entitled "an act to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time;" which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed at the last session, entitled "an act to exempt artificers employed at iron works, from militia duty;" which will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1779, entitled "an act for raising a supply of money for the service of the United States;" which expired on the first day of January last past, ought not to be revived.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first, second, third, fourth and fifth resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, be desired to use every means to make remittances to our delegates in Congress in discharge of their allowance, either by giving orders for the purchasing and transmitting to them tobacco or hemp, or by pursuing such other mode as to them shall appear most effectual.

And the said resolution, being read a second time was; on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "giving further time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Smith, Southall and Cabell.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, to pay for certain horses impressed for public service; appointing John Walker, Esq. a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; and respecting the petition of John Poage; they do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money;" and have agreed to the bill "for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, "to empower the treasurer to emit a further sum of money," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Tyler presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to empower the Governor and Council, to lay an embargo for a limited time;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tyler presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues,' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tyler presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend an act to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tyler presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for continuing an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tyler presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A bill "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to amend an act, for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A bill "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to revive and amend an act, to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A bill "for continuing an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also on the bill "for regulating the department of the War Office," being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, June 20, 1781.

An engrossed bill, "preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to empower the Governor and Council, to lay an embargo for a limited time," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to empower the Governor and Council, to lay an embargo for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to revive and amend an act, to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to revive and amend 'an act, to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for continuing an act, entitled 'an act to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for continuing an act, entitled 'an act to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



An engrossed bill, "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to revive an act, entitled 'an act to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Moore presented, according to order, a bill "for calling upon the delinquent counties in this State who have not furnished their respective quotas of men under any law since the year 1775, and for punishing such officers as were entrusted with the execution of the said laws and have abused that trust;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for the relief certain persons now resident on the western frontier;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" and that Mr. Tyler do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act for settling and adjusting the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the second reading of the bill "for calling upon the delinquent counties in this State who have not furnished their respective quotas of men under any law since the year 1775, and for punishing such officers as were entrusted with the execution of the said laws and have abused that trust;" be put off until the second day of the next session of Assembly.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for regulating the department of the War Office;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bird have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Pride reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several enrolled bills to them referred, and found them truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Pride do carry the said enrolled bills to the Senate for their inspection.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "to establish Courts of Claims;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable the treasurer to emit a farther sum of money;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the act for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same;" and that Mr. Henry do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to establish Courts of Claims;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to amend the act for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for other purposes;” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, “for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House immediately.

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also on the address to the Congress of the United States; and on the bill “for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army,” being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o’clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 21, 1781.

An engrossed bill, “to regulate the department of the War Office;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to regulate the department of the War Office.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “preventing a discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases;” “for farther continuing an act, to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time;” “for farther continuing ‘an act, to revive and amend ‘an act, to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds;” “for continuing ‘an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty;” “for farther continuing ‘an act, to amend ‘an act, for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing, and public vendues;” and to revive “an act, to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour.” And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, “to empower the treasurer to emit a further sum of money;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to empower the treasurer to emit a further sum of money.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontiers;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontiers.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government.”

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the representation from the commissioners of the escheated property in the county of Prince William, concerning the estate late the property of Robert Bristow, a British subject, to them referred; and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



*Resolved*, That the said commissioners be directed not to confirm the sales of the said estate, unless they are bound by law so to do.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer do receive on account any money which may be offered him by Henry Peyton, late sheriff of Prince William county, so that if the said sales be confirmed, he may be saved harmless from all penalties for the non-payment thereof, and if not, that the value thereof may be returned, according to the present state of depreciation, to the purchasers.

*Resolved*, That the said commissioners do in the mean time receive the profits of the said estate, and account annually therefor at the treasury office, the accounts of the said profits being first audited.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Samuel Kirkpatrick, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he received certain wounds at the battle of Guilford, which have disabled him in both hands; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Andrew Moore, Henry and Smith; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Lyman Hall, and others, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the term for which they were by law exempted from payment of taxes as exiled citizens from Georgia and South Carolina, is expired; and praying a farther extension thereof.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

Mr. Smith reported, from the committee to whom the bill giving farther time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax, was committed; that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing two others addressed to the Executive, on the subject of the expedition against Detroit; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Executive be desired to call to an account, every officer, agent, commissary, quartermaster and contractor, or other persons concerned in the disbursement of public monies, who have been or are in service in the western country, belonging to this State, for all their proceedings, and to appoint others to manage the business, if necessary, in the mean time.

*Resolved*, That the Executive be desired, if they shall think it expedient, to put a stop to the expedition lately ordered against Detroit, and to take all necessary steps for disposing of, or applying to other uses, the stores and provisions laid in for that purpose.

And the said resolutions being read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of the Council, be desired to take such steps, either by offering a pardon or otherwise, for effectually suppressing certain insurgents and their associates in the western and northwestern frontiers, as to the Governor and Council shall seem most eligible and conducive to the public good.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of the Council, be desired to make to James Rice, such satisfaction for the loss of his wagon and team and other property said to be lost in the public service, as to them shall seem just and proper.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, be desired to take such measures for the reforming Clark's and Crockett's regiments, and Slaughter's corps, as they shall judge necessary.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That writs issue for the election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Isle of Wight, in the room of Samuel Hardy, Esq. appointed a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; and for the county of York, in the room of Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. elected Governor of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Lomax reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fayette, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the town of Lexington, in the said county, may be established a town, by act of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to establish Courts of Claims;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, "for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; they have agreed to the resolution for making remittances to the delegates of this State in Congress; also, to the bill "for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontiers;" and they do insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to amend the act for regulating and disciplining the militia." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendment; and the same being read, and amendments proposed to be made thereto,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendment, and doth agree thereto with amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, to pay James Rice for certain losses in the public service; to call to account certain officers and others in the western country; to empower the Governor and Council to stop the expedition against Detroit, if reasonable; to reform Clark's and Crockett's regiments, and Slaughter's corps; and to pardon certain insurgents. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to establish Courts of Claims," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to establish Courts of Claims."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "giving farther time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act giving farther time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Smith do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Kirkpatrick, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the said petition, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said petition is reasonable; and that the said petitioner ought to receive one thousand pounds for his present relief, and fifteen pounds per year in specie, or the value thereof in paper money, during his life.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to empower the treasurer to emit a further sum of money;" also, to the bill, "for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, and on the address to the Congress of the United States of America, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



FRIDAY, June 22, 1781.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill “for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government.” And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth insist on their disagreement thereto.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, “to amend the act, ‘for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth’s Land Office;’” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act to amend the act, ‘for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth’s Land Office.’”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “directing the mode of valuing provisions impressed for the use of the army;” and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, and Cabell do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Lomax reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, inspected several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do carry the bills to the Senate for their inspection.

Mr. Taylor presented, according to order, a bill “directing the mode of valuing provisions impressed for the use of the army;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from George Mathews, Esq. late Colonel of the ninth Virginia regiment, containing a representation of sundry matters on behalf of himself and the officers of the said regiment; which was read and ordered to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the first and third resolutions of this House, respecting the sale of the lands late the property of Robert Bristow; they do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill, “for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government;” also, they do disagree to the amendments of this House to their amendment to the bill “to amend the act, ‘for regulating and disciplining the militia;’” and do adhere to their said amendment; and they have passed the bill, “for regulating the department of the War Office,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The amendments to the amendment to the bill, “to amend the act, ‘for regulating and disciplining the militia;’” being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede therefrom, and do agree to the amendment of the Senate, without any amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “for regulating the department of the War Office;” and the same being read, were agreed to.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

It appearing that this State hath incurred great loss from the destruction of the public stores at the Point of Fork, on James River, by a small party of the enemy; and also from the shameful plundering the said stores by some of the adjacent inhabitants, and others: which loss, it is suggested, might have been prevented by the appointment of a small guard for their protection.

*Resolved*, That the Honorable Major General Marquis La Fayette be requested to cause an inquiry to be made into the conduct of all persons under his command, who may be supposed, either by neglect or otherwise, to have been instrumental in the loss of the said stores.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, “directing the mode of valuing provisions impressed for the use of the army,” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House, accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair; and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Governor be empowered to appoint a secretary, who shall be allowed at the rate of thirty thousand pounds of tobacco per annum, to be discharged in the same manner as the salaries of the other officers of government are or shall be discharged.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

The inspection at Cave's warehouse, in the county of Stafford, being discontinued by law, and there being no person to attend to the safe keeping of the tobacco in the said warehouse, whereby much of it has already been greatly injured, and it is feared that the remainder may be lost, unless proper measures are adopted to secure it;

*Resolved*, That the commissioners of the money tax, in the county of Stafford, be directed to make sale of all tobacco at Cave's warehouse, and proceed therein in like manner as inspectors are by the inspection law, directed to proceed.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Garrard do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly:

	<i>In Specie.</i>
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates, - - -	£ 180 0 0
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate, - - -	90 0 0
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, serjeant at arms to the House of Delegates, for one week's attendance, - - -	10 0 0
To Mr. William Pierce, serjeant at arms to the Senate, - - -	60 0 0
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk to two committees to the House of Delegates, - - -	60 0 0
To John Creagh, William Drinkard and William Hicks, door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each - - -	21 0 0
To Thomas Paul and William Hicks, door-keepers to the Senate, each - - -	21 0 0

And that the said specie be discharged at the same difference of exchange, as is by law allowed for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the address to the Congress of the United States; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said address under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

The said address was then again read; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the address to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the mode of valuing provisions impressed for the use of the army," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the mode of valuing provisions impressed for the use of the army."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned 'till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, June 23, 1781.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the Governor and Council, to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army;" and that Messrs. Cabell and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

It appearing to the General Assembly, that Col. William Fleming, being the only acting member of Council for some time before the appointment of a Chief Magistrate, did give orders for the calling out the militia, and also, pursued such other measures as were essential to good government; and it is just and reasonable that he should be indemnified therein;

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said William Fleming, Esq. be indemnified for his conduct as before mentioned, and the Assembly do approve of the same.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the destruction of the public stores at the Point of Fork; that the Governor be empowered to appoint a secretary; that the tobacco at Cave's warehouse, in the county of Stafford, be sold; and for paying certain sums of money to Samuel Kirkpatrick, a wounded soldier; also, they have agreed to the bill "for giving farther time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax;" and also to the bill "for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army;" also, to the bill "for making the money emitted



by this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill "to amend the act, 'for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office,'" with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Cabell presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the Governor and Council, to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, 'for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office,'" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill "to empower the Governor and Council, to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from John Dodge, representing certain abuses and impositions committed by the officers in the Illinois and western department; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the consideration of the Executive.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That when the General Assembly do adjourn, they adjourn to the town of Richmond, there to meet on the first Monday in October next.

*Resolved*, That if the movements of the enemy, in the opinion of the Governor with the advice of Council, shall make it improper to hold the Assembly in the said town, that the Governor, with the advice aforesaid, be desired to appoint the meeting of the said Assembly at the town of Fredericksburg, in the county of Spottsylvania, or at the borough of Winchester, in the county of Frederick; or at such other place as they shall deem expedient.

And the said resolutions being read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the Governor and Council to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to empower the Governor and Council to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do adhere to their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to amend the act, 'for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office.'" And then he withdrew.

The said amendment being again read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement thereto.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the adjournment of the General Assembly; also, to the bill "to empower the Governor and Council to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army," with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the address to the Congress of the United States, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Lomax reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, inspected several others and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lomax do carry the said enrolled bills to the Senate for their inspection.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for indemnifying William Fleming, Esq. a member of the Privy Council, for certain acts therein mentioned; also, to the resolution for making certain allowances to the officers of the General Assembly, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have inspected several other enrolled bills and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to amend an act 'for raising two legions for the defence of this State.'"

"An act, to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes."

"An act, for calling in and exchanging this State's quota of continental money."

"An act, to empower the sheriffs to hold elections in certain cases at other places than those appointed by law."

"An act, for establishing martial law within twenty miles of the American army, or the enemy's camp."

"An act, for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontiers."

"An act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour.'"

"An act, for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to revive and amend an act to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics and persons of unsound minds.'"

"An act, for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty.'"

"An act, for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to amend an act 'to prevent forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues.'"

"An act, for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time.'"

"An act, for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws."

"An act, to empower the treasurer to emit a further sum of money."

"An act, for making the money emitted at this session of Assembly a legal tender, and for punishing the counterfeiters of the same."

"An act, to prevent the discontinuance of the General Court, and suspending the proceedings of certain courts in particular cases."

"An act, to amend the act for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for other purposes."

"An act, for giving farther time to delinquent counties to pay their specific tax."

"An act, for enlisting soldiers to serve in the continental army."

"An act, to regulate the department of the War Office."

"An act, to amend the act 'for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office.'"

"An act, concerning the adjournment of the Supreme Courts."

"An act, to empower the Governor and Council to fix the value of provisions impressed for the use of the army."

"An act, for making provision for the payment of the salaries of the officers of government."

And then the House adjourned till the first Monday in October next.

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE TOWN OF RICHMOND,

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-ONE.*

---

RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN

.....  
1828.

# THE HISTORY OF THE

REPUBLIC OF THE UNITED STATES

OF AMERICA

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS TO THE PRESENT TIME



**JOURNAL**  
OF THE  
**HOUSE OF DELEGATES.**

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

*BEGUN and held at the town of Richmond, in the county of Henrico, on Monday, the first day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, in the buildings provided by the Public Directors, pursuant to the Act "for the removal of the Seat of Government."*

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MONDAY, October 1, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, October 2, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, October 3, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.  
Several other members, having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.  
There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business;  
On a motion made,  
*Ordered*, That the House be adjourned until the first Monday in November next. \*

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MONDAY, November 5, 1781.

This being the day appointed for the meeting of the General Assembly; the members that appeared, repaired to their seats in the House of Delegates.  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

TUESDAY, November 6, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

Several other members, having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, November 7, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

Several other members, having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, November 8, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody James Marks and Isaac Davis, members for the county of Albemarle; William Cabell, a member for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnson and James Steele, members for the county of Augusta; John Talbot, a member for the county of Bedford; Adam Stephen and Moses Hunter, members for the county of Berkeley; John Breckenridge, a member for the county of Botetourt; Charles Patteson, a member for the county of Buckingham; John Taylor, a member for the county of Caroline; John Tyler, a member for the county of Charles City; John Banister and Robert Bolling, members for the county of Dinwiddie; Meriwether Smith, a member for the county of Essex; Daniel Dulaney, a member for the county of Fairfax; Francis Triplett and William Pickett, members for the county of Fauquier; John Ware, a member for the county of Fluvanna; Joseph Holmes, a member for the county of Frederick; John Page and Thomas Smith, members for the county of Gloucester; Archer Mathews and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; John Turner, a member for the county of Greenesville; Patrick Henry, a member for the county of Henry; Joseph Prentis and Champion Travis, members for the county of James City; John Scasbrook Wells, a member for the county of Isle of Wight; Isaac Cocks, a member for the county of Jefferson; Carter Braxton, a member for the county of King William; John Alexander, a member for the county of Loudoun; Samuel Goode, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; James Montague and Thomas Moore, members for the county of Middlesex; Robert Sayers, a member for the county of Montgomery; Lyddall Bacon and Armistead Russell, members for the county of New Kent; John Bowdoin, a member for the county of Northampton; John Gordon, a member for the county of Northumberland; William Ronald, a member for the county of Powhatan; John Hooe, a member for the county of Prince William; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Benjamin Harrison and Robert Cravens, members for the county of Rockingham; Edwin Young, a member for the county of Shenandoah; John Rogers, a member for the county of Southampton; Beverley Winslow, a member for the county of Spotsylvania; William Hart, a member for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins, a member for the county of Sussex; Edward Harwood, and Cole Digges, members for the county of Warwick; James Innes and Samuel Irwin, members for the county of Yohogania; William Reynolds, a member for the county of York; and James Innes, a member for the city of Williamsburg.

On a motion made, *Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, be authorised and empowered to send special messengers to take into custody, wherever to be found, the bodies of the foregoing members; and Mr. Speaker is desired to issue his warrants accordingly.

There not being a sufficient number to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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FRIDAY, November 9, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, do apply to the quartermaster general of the State for as many express riders and horses, as may be necessary to send for and take into custody the delinquent members, agreeable to the order of yesterday; and the said quartermaster general is hereby required to furnish the same.

The House being informed that Mr. John Tyler, one of the members for the county of Charles City; Mr. Thomas Smith, one of the members for the county of Gloucester; Mr. Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; and Mr. Robert Sayers, one of the members for the county of Montgomery, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said John Tyler, Thomas Smith, Samuel Goode and Robert Sayers, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

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#### MONDAY, November 12, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. William Cabell, one of the members for the county of Amherst, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Cabell be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. William Campbell, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; Mr. Andrew Moore, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; and Mr. William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said William Campbell, Andrew Moore, and William Ronald, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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#### TUESDAY, November 13, 1781.

The House being informed that Messrs. Zachariah Johnson and James Steele, members for the county of Augusta, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Zachariah Johnson and James Steele be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Mr. Lyddall Bacon, one of the members for the county of New Kent, containing the reasons for his non-attendance, which was read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lyddall Bacon, one of the members for the county of New Kent; be discharged out of the custody of the serjeant at arms, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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#### WEDNESDAY, November 14, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Bolling, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; and Mr. Armistead Russell, one of the members for the county of New Kent, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Bolling and Armistead Russell, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Breckenridge, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; and Mr. John Rogers, one of the members for the county of Southampton, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said John Breckenridge and John Rogers, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.



## THURSDAY, November 15, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Francis Triplett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Francis Triplett be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; and Mr. William Hart, one of the members for the county of Surry, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said William Pickett and William Hart, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Mayo have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, November 16, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Meriwether Smith, one of the members for the county of Essex; and Mr. John Hooe, one of the members for the county of Prince William, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on Thursday the 8th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said Meriwether Smith and John Hooe, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Bowdoin, one of the members for the county of Northampton, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Bowdoin be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, November 17, 1781.

The House met according to their adjournment;

But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

## MONDAY, November 19, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Moses Hunter, one of the members for the county of Berkeley, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Moses Hunter be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Joseph Holmes, one of the members for the county of Frederick; Mr. Champion Travis, one of the members for the county of James City; and Mr. John Talbot, one of the members for the county of Bedford, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday the 8th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said Joseph Holmes, Champion Travis, and John Talbot, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Beckley, be appointed clerk to this House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes, be appointed serjeant at arms to this House.

*Ordered*, That John Cragh, William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, and William Hicks, be appointed door-keepers to this House; and that they give their attendance accordingly.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a writ issue for the election of delegates, to serve in General Assembly, for the county of Elizabeth City, until the first Monday in May next; no election having been held in that county on the day appointed by law, for want of a sheriff.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

Information having been given to the House, by a member in his place, that John Hopkins, one of the clerks of the treasury, has made use of most unjustifiable means to get possession of certain certificates on the auditors, intending thereby, to defraud both the country and individuals;

*Resolved*, That the serjeant at arms be directed to take the said Hopkins instantly into his custody; and that he also seize on all his papers.

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the subject matter of the said information: that they have power to adjourn from day to day, and send for persons and papers, and confine any persons they shall think proper.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Nicholas, Page, Tyler, Ronald, Stith, Talbot and Southall, be a committee agreeable to the second resolution.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Cabell, Mayo, Zachariah Johnson, Southall, Eppes, Wilkinson, Andrew Moore, Gairard, Tyler, Page, Steele, Bird, Breckenridge, Nathaniel Harrison, Rogers, George Watkins, Coleman and Talbot; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be from time to time referred to them, and report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers, and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections, be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tyler, Strother, Page, Nicholas, Cabell, Lomax, Lee, Woodson, Francis Peyton, Syme, Mayo, Morgan, Samuel Goode, William Moore, and Carter, and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place, all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and compare the same with the form prescribed by law, and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question, touching returns, elections, and privileges; and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers, and records for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections, to be heard at the bar of this House, or before the committee of Privileges and Elections; the petitioners do by themselves or their agents, within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House, or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members; giving in the said lists, the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters excepted to; and that the sitting members do by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the lists on their parts to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances, be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Page, Nicholas, Tyler, Lomax, Strother, Nathaniel Harrison, Meriwether Smith, Peyton, Joel Watkins, John Watkins, Zachariah Johnson, Wilkinson, Ronald, Sampson, Rogers, Langford, Benjamin Harrison, Southall, Carter, Triplett, Thomas Smith, Rucker, Clarke, Stith, Bell, Samuel Goode, Eppes, Brockenbrough, Wilkins, Turner, Bates, George Watkins, Saunders, Samuel Richardson, Coleman, Francis Goode, Kendall, Powell, Walker, Hobson, Campbell, Godwin, Hull, William Moore, Scott, Williams, Flournoy, Andrew Moore, Bird, Taylor of Southampton, Baker, Kee, Hart, Bolling, Rogers, Boone, Bowdoin, Hooe, Holmes, Travis, Sayres, Talbot and Hunter; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all propositions and grievances that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and all such propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of the House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Courts of Justice, be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Nicholas, Baker, Tyler, Lomax, Francis Peyton, Mayo, Field, Joel Watkins, Stith, Kendall and Taylor of Southampton; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and take into their consideration all matters relating to Courts of Justice, and such other matters as shall from time to time, be referred to them, and report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and also, examine what laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session, or are near expiring; and report the same to the House, with their opinions which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Trade, be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Lee, Ronald, Syme, Bolling, Cabell, Taylor of Southampton, Gairard, Baker, Francis Goode, Southall, Wilkinson, Bell, Meriwether Smith, Thomas Smith, Bowdoin, Hooe, Travis and Hunter; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration, all such things relating to the trade of this Commonwealth, and all matters that shall be from time to time, to them referred, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances; seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections; and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to make a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Adam Craig, be appointed clerk to the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice and Pub-

lic Trade; and Mr. Edmund Pendleton, jun. to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from Mr. Isaac Davis, one of the members for the county of Albemarle, stating his acceptance of a public office, which disqualifies him as a member of this House; which was read and ordered to be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Cyrus Griffin, Esq. respecting his public accounts while a delegate of this State in Congress; which was read, and together with the said accounts, ordered to be referred to Messrs. Ronald, Strother, Francis Peyton, Cabell and Zachariah Johnson, who are to examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from John Blair, Esq. containing the resignation of his appointment as a delegate of this State in Congress; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Hon. William Fleming, Esq. a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, containing his resignation of that appointment; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker communicated to the House, the resignation of the Hon. John Walker, Esq. a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, made to him during the recess of Assembly.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said resignation be accepted.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from Leighton Wood, Esq. Solicitor General, enclosing a state of the public expenditures, and a list of balances due to the public.

*Ordered*, That the said letter and enclosures do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal an act, for further continuing an act 'to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time;' and that Messrs. Nicholas and Meriwether Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to prevent the farther impresses of horses and provisions;" and that Messrs. Nicholas and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the letters, papers and information respecting the accounts of Meriwether Smith, Esq. late a delegate of this State in Congress, which were depending and undetermined before the last session of Assembly, be referred to Messrs. Cabell, Southall, Ronald, Bowdoin, Syme, Francis Peyton, Strother and Nicholas; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 20, 1781.

The Speaker communicated to the House, a letter from Edmund Randolph, Esq. a delegate of this State in Congress, respecting the cession of lands made by Virginia to the United States; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The House being informed, that Mr. James Markes, one of the members for the county of Albemarle, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said James Markes be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the information respecting John Hopkins was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said information under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this committee, That the said Hopkins ought to be suspended from the execution of the office of commissioner of the continental Loan Office, until a further inquiry can be made into his conduct; and that the treasurer be directed not to permit him to act under him until that inquiry can be made.

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this committee, That the said Hopkins ought to be discharged out of the custody of the serjeant at arms.

A memorial of Mann Page and Francis Triplett, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the memorialist Francis Triplett, having engaged, by consent of the Governor and Council, to raise a company of horse for public service, the memorialists jointly contracted with a workman to supply the said company with caps, engaging their private credit to see him paid for the same; that the said caps were furnished and an account presented against the memorialists to pay for them; and praying that the public may pay the said account.

Also, a petition of Major William Mosby; setting forth, that in the defeat of General Gates at Camden, his horse, saddle and bridle, were taken by the enemy, but not through the carelessness or default of the petitioner; and praying that compensation may be made him for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial and petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill, "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, 'for farther continuing an



act, "to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed, were presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are greatly aggrieved by an act of Assembly, for opening a road from their courthouse to the Warm Springs in the county of Augusta; which act is in its operation unequal and oppressive; and praying that the same may be repealed or amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time;'" was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the militia are subjected to great inconvenience when called into service for the want of tents and wagons; which they conceive might be removed or alleviated if the county was laid off into districts and each district compelled to furnish a tent, and every county a wagon; and praying that an act may pass to that effect; and also measures be taken for supplying the militia with arms and ammunition.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 21, 1781.

The House being informed, that Mr. John Alexander, one of the members for the county of Loudoun, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday the 8th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said John Alexander be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; and Mr. John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said John Taylor and John Banister, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, to them referred, praying that the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, to empower the court of Greenbrier county to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse to the eastern waters," may be repealed; and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the operation of the said act ought to be suspended for the term of two years.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Greenbrier, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That the said report do lie on the table.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the letter of Mr. Isaac Davis, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Isaac Davis, by accepting the office of deputy commissary of provisions, hath vacated his seat in the House of Delegates as a representative for the county of Albemarle.

*Ordered*, That a writ issue for the election of a delegate to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Albemarle, in the room of Mr. Isaac Davis, who hath accepted an office of profit.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate the election and enforce the attendance of members of the General Assembly; and that Messrs. Page, Saunders, Nicholas, Tyler, Taylor of Caroline, and Smith of Essex, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do agree to the following order, as a standing order of the House:

*Ordered*, That so much of any standing order of this House, as allows the fees of the serjeant at arms attending this House to be discharged in the current paper money, be rescinded; and that in future it be a standing order, that the fees of the serjeant at arms be as followeth, to wit: for taking any person into custody, thirteen shillings; for every day he shall be detained in custody, thirteen shillings; for sending a messenger to take any person into custody by a warrant from the Speaker, six pence per mile for going, and the same for returning, besides ferriages; which fees shall be paid in specie.

And the said order being severally read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The Speaker communicated to the House a letter from Doctor Henry Todd, respecting the illness and incapacity to attend of Mr. James Montague, one of the members for the county of Middlesex.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said James Montague be discharged out of the custody of the serjeant at arms, without paying fees.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Carter Braxton, Esq. one of the members for the county of King William, containing the reasons for his non-attendance; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

A petition of John Carter Littlepage was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that some time in the year 1776, the lead mines in the county of Bedford, whereof the petitioner and the executors or administrators of the late Mr. Chiswell and John Robinson, Esq. are seised as tenants in common, were by virtue of a resolution of Congress taken for public use; that neither of the proprietors have received any rent or other emolument for the same since they were so taken; and praying that compensation may be made them therefor, and the proprietors permitted to work the said mines for their private advantage.

Also, divers petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, the inconveniences they labor under from the great extent of their county; and praying a division thereof, agreeable to certain boundaries therein expressed.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the same county, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereto.

Also, a petition of the commissioners of the money tax, in the county of Amelia; setting forth, the danger they are in of incurring the penalty of the law for not discharging their duty, occasioned by the resignation of one of the commissioners; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Nicholas Cabell, Harry Innes and Joseph Cabell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the allowance made them by law, as commissioners in the district of Washington and Montgomery, agreeable to the act "for ascertaining the titles of claimers to unpatented lands," is very inadequate, occasioned by the rapid depreciation of money; and praying a farther allowance.

Also, a petition of Benoni Boatwright; setting forth, that after the enemy's incursion to the Point of Fork, two continental soldiers went to the petitioner's house sick, and remained there a considerable time, to his great expense and inconvenience, being a poor man; and praying to be made compensation.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Cuninghame; setting forth, that she has reason to believe her husband Bartlet Cuninghame, a continental soldier, was killed or taken prisoner at the battle of Camden; that she is, with three small children, in great distress; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Alexander Buntain; setting forth, that being in the militia of Rockbridge county, he received a wound at the battle of Guilford, which has disabled him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Gilliam; setting forth, that in July, 1780, he had two mares impressed into the public service and appraised, since which he has frequently applied for payment without receiving any part of their appraised value; that the depreciation of the money will occasion considerable loss in the said valuation, if he should be now obliged to receive the nominal amount; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Caldwell; setting forth, that being of the militia of Rockbridge county at the defeat of Col. Tarleton, he received a wound, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Abraham Nettles; setting forth, that the allowance heretofore made him for wounds received while a soldier in the public service, hath become very inadequate to his support; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Frederick Fisher; setting forth, that being of the militia of Washington county, at the battle of King's Mountain he received a wound, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William More, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John Cusick; setting forth, that being of the militia under the command of General Campbell, on their march to reinforce General Greene, he received a wound, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Brumley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of May last,

General Nelson's brigade of militia encamped on his plantation, to which they did considerable injury, by burning his fences and destroying his wheat; and praying to be made reparation.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of Alexander Wily, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has for some time past, performed the service of affixing the seal of the Commonwealth to patents for land without any consideration; and praying to be made a reasonable allowance for the same.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of John Hargrove, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being employed by the commanding officer of Greenville county to ride express on public service, he was taken by the enemy, and lost his horse, saddle and bridle; and praying to be paid for the same.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of John Patrick, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that Charles, a negro man slave, the property of the petitioner, ranaway, and after being duly outlawed, was shot to death; and praying to be paid for the said slave.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under great inconveniences by the discontinuance of the inspection at Glasscock's in the said county; and praying that the said inspection may be revived.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 22, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a memorial from the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly of North Carolina, respecting the navigation of Ocracock Inlet; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from his excellency the Governor, containing his resignation of that appointment; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Tuesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, in the room of his excellency Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and also, of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Andrew Lewis, Esq. deceased, and of William Fleming and John Walker, Esquires, who have resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the letter of Carter Braxton, Esq. a delegate for the county of King William, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the resignation of the said Carter Braxton, is inadmissible; and from the manner of its being offered, is highly reprehensible.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Carter Braxton ought to be compelled to attend his duty in the House.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of Bedford, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Bedford, praying a division thereof, by a line to begin at the mouth of Judy's creek on James river, thence to Thomp-



son's mill on Buffalo creek, thence to the mouth of Back creek on Goose creek, thence a direct line to Staunton river, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county in opposition thereto, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Kendall have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday three weeks; Mr. Willson, until Monday fortnight; and Mr. Francis Goode, until Monday next.

A petition of Thomas Griffin Peachey, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that his storehouses at Rocky Run in the county of Amelia, were on the 12th day of July last, burnt by the enemy; that those houses had been seized and taken by the public commissaries and quartermasters, and were, till the day on which they were destroyed, possessed by them for public use, without any previous contract with the petitioner to pay him any rent; that the petitioner had no alternative either of stipulating with the public officers for a certain rent, or of refusing altogether to let out his houses; and praying to be paid for them by the public.

Also, a petition of William Harrison; setting forth, that he was appointed by the Governor and Council some time in January last, to furnish provisions and boats for the expedition against Detroit, commanded by General Clarke, and a sum of money sent him for that purpose; that he accordingly proceeded to make his contracts, but the insufficiency of the sum sent him, and the delay of farther supplies, produced so great a depreciation, that the people with whom he contracted refused to receive the money due them, and the petitioner remains liable for the same; that the auditors cannot remedy his case; and praying relief.

Also, several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Stafford, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the place fixed on by the commissioners appointed by act of Assembly to ascertain the centre of their county, is not central, and will occasion great inconvenience to the people should their courthouse be removed thereto; and praying that the courthouse may be continued at the place where it now is.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Alexander and Banister, be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Taylor of Caroline, to the committees of Courts of Justice and Trade; and Messrs. Garrard and Mountjoy, to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to incorporate the town of Fredericksburg, in the county of Spottsylvania;" and that Messrs. Page, and Meriwether Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Samuel Venable, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was cornet in a volunteer corps of dragoons from Prince Edward, raised at the request of Major General Greene, and after joining the army was detached on a reconnoitering party, and taken prisoner by the enemy with his horse, which was previously appraised to eighteen thousand pounds of tobacco; and praying to be paid for the said horse.

Also, a petition of Richmond Smith, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of James Cunningham; setting forth, that he was of the militia of Augusta county at the battle of Guilford, and received a wound, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Alexander Martin, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That the treasurer do lay his accounts before the House.

A petition of the churchwardens and vestry of the parish of Antrim, in the county of Halifax, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the vestry of the said parish may be dissolved, and the glebe lands sold or disposed of, for the use of the said parish.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, whose names are thereunto subscribed, setting forth, that they conceive it would conduce much to the general utility of the people (in parochial matters especially) if the now acting vestries throughout the State were dissolved, and others re-elected, upon principles more consistent with the present constitution; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Walker Daniel, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a stud horse, belonging to the petitioner, was impressed by an officer of General Greene's army, for the use of the army, and detained a considerable time in the service, after which, he was returned to the petitioner greatly reduced and injured; and praying to be made compensation for the same.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Frederick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the present mode of impress, is grievous and oppressive; that great inconveniences result from the embargo law; and that they conceive the entrusting a power in the hands of one per-

son to tax the people, is unconstitutional; and praying that the impress and embargo laws may be repealed; that all the present money taxes may cease, and in lieu thereof, specific and specie taxes be imposed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws have expired, and inspected such temporary laws, as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1778, entitled "an act, for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" which was continued and amended by a subsequent act, and will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1780, entitled "an act to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly respecting the inspection of tobacco;'" which will expire on the last day of this month, ought to be continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed at the last session, entitled "an act, for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of laws;" which will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed at the session held in March last, entitled "an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works, from militia duty;" which was continued by a subsequent act, and will expire at the end of this present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first, third and fourth resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the second resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, inspected the Journal of the last session of Assembly, and drawn up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and had agreed to a report thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that at the last session of Assembly, the proceedings of the commissioners appointed by law to ascertain the centre of the county of Stafford, were reported to the House by Mr. Mountjoy, a member thereof, which were read, and ordered to be referred to the consideration of the then next session of Assembly.

That the petition of Lyman Hall and others, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the term for which they were, by law, exempted from payment of taxes as exiled citizens from Georgia and South Carolina, is expired; and praying a further extension thereof.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fayette, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the town of Lexington, in the said county, may be established a town, by act of Assembly.

And also, a letter from George Mathews, Esq. late colonel of the ninth Virginia regiment, containing a representation of sundry matters on behalf of himself and the officers of the said regiment, was laid before the House, and read; and by the House it was ordered, that the said petitions and letter should be referred to the consideration of the then next session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That the said report, petitions and letter, be severally referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The treasurer, according to order, laid his accounts before the House.

*Ordered*, That the said accounts do lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the letter from Edmund Randolph, Esq. which lay on the table, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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FRIDAY, November 23, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House sundry letters and papers addressed to the Executive Council from General Washington, the President of Congress, the Superintendent of finance, the delegates of this State in Congress, and from the Generals Greene and Clarke.

Also, a letter from Samuel M'Dowell, Esq. a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, containing his resignation of that appointment; which letters and papers were delivered to him by the Lieutenant Governor.

The said letters and papers were severally read;

*Ordered*, That the letter of Samuel M'Dowell, Esq. do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That all other of the said letters and papers, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Page, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, presented, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Bedford."

*Ordered*, That the said bill do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, November 24, 1781.

*Ordered*, That the names of the members of this House be now called over.

The House was accordingly called over, and the names of the members who failed to appear being noted, the names of those who made default were again called over, when some were excused on account of sickness, necessary absence in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into custody Mr. Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; Mr. Samuel Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Mr. Joseph Peebles, a member for the county of Brunswick; Mr. Charles Patterson, a member for the county of Buckingham; Mr. Creed Haskins, a member for the county of Cumberland; Mr. John Banister, a member for the county of Dinwiddie; Mr. Daniel Dulaney, a member for the county of Fairfax; Mr. John Ware, a member for the county of Fluvanna; Mr. Isaac Zane, a member for the county of Frederick; Mr. John Page, a member for the county of Gloucester; Mr. Archer Matthews and Mr. George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Mr. John Turner, a member for the county of Greenvillage; Mr. Patrick Henry, a member for the county of Henry; Mr. Joseph Prentiss, a member for the county of James City; Mr. John Seashbrook Wells, a member for the county of Isle of Wight; Mr. Isaac Cocks, a member for the county of Jefferson; Mr. Carter Braxton, a member for the county of King William; Mr. John Taylor, a member for the county of Lancaster; Mr. John Powell, a member for the county of Louisa; Mr. Nicholas Hopson, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Mr. Benjamin Logan and Mr. John Edwards, members for the county of Lincoln; Mr. Thomas Moore, a member for the county of Middlesex; Mr. Armistead Russell, a member for the county of New Kent; Mr. Thomas Newton, jun. and Mr. Thomas Mathews, members for the county of Norfolk; Mr. Michael Christian and Mr. John Bowdoin, members for the county of Northampton; Mr. John Gordon, a member for the county of Northumberland; Mr. William Smith, a member for the county of Richmond; Mr. Benjamin Harrison and Mr. Robert Cravens, members for the county of Rockingham; Mr. Edwin Young, a member for the county of Shenandoah; Mr. Beverley Winslow, a member for the county of Spotsylvania; Mr. Gray Judkins, a member for the county of Sussex; Mr. Edward Harwood, a member for the county of Warwick; Mr. James Innes and Mr. Samuel Irwin, members for the county of Yohogania; Mr. William Reynolds, a member for the county of York; Mr. James Innes, member for the city of Williamsburg; and Mr. John Hutchings, member for the borough of Norfolk.

The House being informed, that Mr. Armistead Russell, one of the members for the county of New Kent; and Mr. John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said Armistead Russell and John Banister, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Ronald, Cabell, Peyton, Talbot, Joel Watkins, Coleman, William Moore, Nathaniel Harrison, Alexander, Garrard, Jacobs and Field.

*Ordered*, That a message be sent to the Senate, to inform them that this House hath appointed a committee to examine the treasurer's accounts, and if they please to appoint a committee of their House for that purpose, both committees may proceed to do the business together.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the said message:

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg, in the county of Spottsylvania;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Nicholas, from the committee for Courts of Justice, presented, according to order, a bill "for farther contin-



uing an act, entitled 'an act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Nicholas, from the committee for Courts of Justice, presented according to order, a bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works, from militia duty;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for dividing the county of Bedford;" was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Watkins have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table,

*Ordered*, That the said report and resolutions do lie on the table.

A petition of John Swann was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he became entitled by purchase to five thousand acres of land, due for services agreeable to his Britannic Majesty's Proclamation of 1763; that in the year 1775, he put the warrants for the said land into the hands of General Thompson, at that time deputy surveyor of Fincastle county, who surveyed the same, and made returns thereof; which the petitioner conceived was sufficient to entitle him to a grant for the same; that Colonel Preston, the principal surveyor of that district, has since refused to make returns of the said survey, alleging, that General Thompson did not take the necessary oaths as a surveyor, agreeable to law; that General Thompson having refused so to do from political reasons, and the petitioner absent in the service of his country, and some time a prisoner to the enemy, he has been prevented from confirming his right agreeable to the land laws passed during his absence; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of the proprietors of sundry tobacco warehouses, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the rent allowed by law is insufficient to enable them to keep the said warehouses in repair, as the law requires; and praying that the said rent may be augmented, or the warehouses taken for public use, and the proprietors paid their valuation;

Also, a petition of John Mayo and others, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that travellers and others who cross at the falls of James river, experience great inconvenience from the delay of the present ferry; and praying that another ferry may be established from the land of the said John Mayo on the south side of the said river, to his lot in Richmond and the Sandy Bar on the north side.

Also, a petition of Nathaniel Tally; setting forth, that as guardian to the heir at law of John Tate, deceased, some time in the year 1777, he leased out the lands belonging to the estate for twenty-four pounds per annum; that from the depreciation of money the said sum is become totally incompetent to the support of the orphans of the said John Tate, who are to be maintained out of the estate until the heir at law arrives at age; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Brown, Richard Wade and John Morten, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive themselves entitled to the right in pre-emption to certain lands in Kentucky, which they have been prevented from confirming by enlisting as soldiers in the year 1778, and being in the course of the same year taken by the Indians, from whom they have lately effected their escape; and praying some compensation for the time they were in captivity, and that their rights of pre-emption as settlers in Kentucky may be confirmed to them.

Also, a petition of James Smith; setting forth, that he received a wound at the battle of Guilford, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John McKinny; setting forth, that the allowance heretofore made him for wounds received while a soldier in the service of his country, is become very inadequate to his support; and praying a farther relief.

Also, a petition of John Turberville; setting forth, that in the year 1778, he had a wagon, team, and negro driver, impressed for the purpose of attending a party of drafted soldiers from this State to the continental army, then in Pennsylvania, for which he has never been able to obtain any compensation; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Caleb Tate; setting forth, that in the year 1780, he had a quantity of whiskey and writing paper impressed for the use of Gen. Stevens's brigade of militia, then in South Carolina, for which he has never been able to obtain any compensation; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Nathaniel Littleton Savage; setting forth, that he has received considerable injury in his estate in New-Kent county, by the armies of the United States, militia, &c. who have destroyed great part of his crops, laid waste his fields and pastures, and burnt his fencing; and praying relief.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, November 26, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Creed Haskins, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; Mr. John Scasbrook Wells, one of members for the county of Isle of Wight; and Mr. George Clendinnen, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on Saturday last,

*Ordered*, That the said Creed Haskins, John Scasbrook Wells, and George Clendinnen, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Ware, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said John Ware be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, stating several matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters enclosed on the subject thereof; which was read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of John Carter Littlepage, as prays that the lead mines now in the possession of the public, may be delivered to the proprietors, reserving to the public the pre-emption of all lead they may make; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that full compensation may be made the proprietors, for the time the said lead mines have been in the public possession; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the commissioners of the tax, for the county of Amelia, praying that they may be authorised to collect the taxes imposed by an act of Assembly, "for calling in and redeeming the money now in circulation, and for emitting and funding new bills of credit, according to the resolutions of Congress;" and that the salaries of the clerks to the commissioners of the tax may be increased; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Harrison, resident of that part of the county of Yohogania, formerly in Virginia, but now taken into the State of Pennsylvania, who was appointed by Thomas Jefferson, Esq. whilst Governor, to purchase provisions for the use of the men under the command of Col. Clarke, praying that he may be indemnified for all reasonable contracts and engagements made for the purchase of such provisions; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That commissioners resident in this State, and as nearly as may be to the said William Harrison, ought to be appointed to adjust and settle the said accounts, and make report thereof, to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Griffin Peachey, of the county of Amelia, praying that compensation may be made him by the public for three houses, which were taken by public commissaries and quartermasters, for the purpose of depositing the stores removed thither from Petersburg; and also made use of by the commissary appointed to receive the specific tax in the said county, and burnt by the enemy on the 12th day of July last; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts do allow the said Thomas Griffin Peachey, such a sum of money for the said houses as they may think just and right; and to issue a warrant upon the treasurer for payment thereof.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Stafford, praying that the place for holding courts in the said county may not be altered, but remain at the place where the courthouse now stands; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the place fixed on by the commissioners appointed by act of Assembly, is not a proper one for building a courthouse and prison, in the said county of Stafford.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th 5th, 8th and 9th resolutions were severally read a second time, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the 6th and 7th resolutions do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 2d resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the 4th and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from proceeding on the letters of Gen. Clarke to the Governor, to them referred; and that the said letters be referred to Messrs. Page, Banister, Smith, Holmes, and Zachariah Johnson.

A memorial of John Gibson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he furnished a quantity of goods, for the expedition under Gen. Clarke, for which Gen. Clarke engaged on the part of the public, to pay the

memorialist a certain sum in hard money, and gave him a draught on the Executive: that he has applied, and cannot obtain payment for the same; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House proceeded to consider the report from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, which lay on the table, respecting the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, to them referred, praying that the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, to empower the court of Greenbrier county, to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse to the eastern waters," may be repealed; and the said report being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the operation of the said act ought to be suspended for the term of two years.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Greenbrier; be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to oblige such counties within this Commonwealth, as have not furnished their proportion of men under the respective laws, for filling this State's quota of continental troops, to make up their deficiencies;" and that Messrs. Andrew Moore, Strother, Lee, Peyton, and Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Tyler and Baker, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday the 12th day of December next, proceed, agreeable to a resolution of the 12th of June last, to inquire into the conduct of the Executive of this State for the last twelve months next preceding the said resolution; and that, as well the information against the said Executive, as their defence, be received and heard on that day.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to state any charges, and receive such information as may be offered, respecting the administration of the Executive; of which, the said committee shall give notice, if any accusation should be made, in writing, to the members which composed the Executive, within the time referred to.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Banister, Tyler, Nicholas, Southall and Morgan.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of King George and Westmoreland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under great inconvenience by the discontinuance of the inspection of tobacco, at Machodack; and praying that the said inspection may be revived.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The order of the day, for the House to proceed to-morrow, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate, in the room of Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and also of three members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Andrew Lewis, Esq. deceased, and of William Fleming and John Walker, Esquires, who hath resigned; being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off until Thursday next.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Thursday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Samuel McDowell, Esq. who hath resigned; also, of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, in the room of John Blair, Esq. who hath resigned; also, of a Judge of the General Court, in the room of John Tazewell, Esq. deceased; and of an auditor of public accounts, in the room of Edward Archer, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, "for further continuing 'an act, entitled 'an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for further continuing 'an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Dunn have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday next.

A bill, "for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg in the county of Spotsylvania;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.



A bill, "for dividing the county of Bedford;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, November 27, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; and Mr. John Bowdoin, one of the members for the county of Northampton, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said Patrick Henry and John Bowdoin be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing 'an act, entitled 'an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for further continuing 'an act entitled 'an act, to exempt artificers employed at iron works from militia duty."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the execution of 'an act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Court of Greenbrier county, to have a wagon road opened from their Courthouse to the eastern waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Robert Baine was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he left this State some time in the year 1775, for the West Indies, upon indispensable private business, but with a fixed determination to return; that during his absence, and before he could effect his purpose of returning to the State, a law of escheat and forfeiture passed, by which the estate of the petitioner was taken and sold for public use, and himself precluded the rights of citizenship; and praying that his estate or the sales thereof may be made good to him, and that he may be admitted to the rights of citizenship.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Swann, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of the said John Swann, praying that certain surveys of land, made in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, may be confirmed to him, be deferred until the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lankford be added to the committee of Trade; and Mr. Henry to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, stating several other matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and enclosing a letter addressed to the Executive; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Turberville, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the deposition of Captain George Lee Turberville, that some time in the year 1778, he impressed a wagon, team, and negro driver, the property of the petitioner, for the purpose of attending a party of drafted soldiers to the continental army, then in Pennsylvania; that the said wagon and driver were detained in the continental service by Lieutenant Hudson Martin, the then wagon master, at Lancaster, and a certificate given for them to this deponent; that by some accident, the said certificate was lost or miscarried; and that the said wagon, team and driver, have never been returned to the petitioner, nor any compensation made him for them.

It further appears to your committee, from the deposition of James Whaley, that at the time the said wagon, team and driver, were impressed from the petitioner, he was manager of his estate, and has continued to be so ever since that period; and that they have never been returned to him.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such parts of the petition of the said John Turberville, as pray that compensation may be made him by this State, for the loss of his said wagon, team and driver; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the delegates from this State in Congress, may be directed to apply to that honorable body for compensation to be made him for his said loss; is reasonable.

The first resolution was read a second time, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second resolution was read a second time, and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg in the county of Spottsylvania;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tyler reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Mann Page and Francis Triplett, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read and ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" being read,

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 28, 1781.

*Ordered,* That the names of the members of this House, be called over immediately;

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear, were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered,* That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Mr. George Stewart, a member for the county of Accomack; Mr. James Markes, a member for the county of Albemarle; Mr. William Royall, a member for the county of Amelia; Mr. Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Mr. Samuel Lewis and Mr. John Breckenridge, members for the county of Botetourt; Mr. Francis Goode, a member for the county of Chesterfield; Mr. Creed Haskins, a member for the county of Cumberland; Mr. Robert Bolling, a member for the county of Dinwiddie; Mr. Daniel Dulaney, a member for the county of Fairfax; Mr. Isaac Zane, a member for the county of Frederick; Mr. John Page, a member for the county of Gloucester; Mr. Archer Mathews, a member for the county of Greenbrier; Mr. John Turner, a member for the county of Greensville; Messrs. James Bates and Geo. Watkins, members for the county of Halifax; Mr. Joseph Prentis, a member for the county of James City; Mr. Isaac Cocks, a member for the county of Jefferson; Messrs. Thomas Roane and Thomas Coleman, members for the county of King and Queen; Mr. Carter Braxton, a member for the county of King William; Mr. John Taylor, a member for the county of Lancaster; Mr. Francis Peyton, a member for the county of Loudoun; Messrs. William White and John Powell, members for the county of Louisa; Mr. Nicholas Hopson, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Messrs. Benjamin Logan and John Edwards, members for the county of Lincoln; Mr. Samuel Goode, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Mr. Thomas Moore, a member for the county of Middlesex; Mr. Robert Sayers, a member for the county of Montgomery; Mr. Kinchen Godwin, a member for the county of Nansemond; Mr. Lyddall Bacon, a member for the county of New Kent; Messrs. Thomas Newton, jun. and Thomas Mathews, members for the county of Norfolk; Mr. John Gordon, a member for the county of Northumberland; Mr. William Ronald, a member for the county of Powhatan; Mr. Nathaniel Harrison, a member for the county of Prince George; Mr. John Hooe, a member for the county of Prince William; Mr. William Smith, a member for the county of Richmond; Messrs. Benjamin Harrison and Robert Cravens, members for the county of Rockingham; Messrs. Edwin Young and Abraham Bird, members for the county of Shenandoah; Mr. John Taylor, a member for the county of Southampton; Mr. Beverley Winslow, a member for the county of Spottsylvania; Mr. James Kee, a member for the county of Surry; Mr. Gray Judkins, a member for the county of Sussex; Mr. Edward Harwood, a member for the county of Warwick; Mr. Richard Lee, a member for the county of Westmoreland; Messrs. James Innes and Samuel Irwin, members for the county of Yohogania; Mr. William Reynolds, a member for the county of York; Mr. James Innes, a member for the City of Williamsburg; and Mr. John Hutchings, a member for the Borough of Norfolk.

The House being informed, that Mr. William White, one of the members for the county of Louisa, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over to-day,

*Ordered*, That the said William White be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed, that Mr. Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Mr. John Powell, one of the members for the county of Louisa; Mr. Francis Goode, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; Mr. William Royall, one of the members for the county of Amelia; Mr. Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Mr. John Hooe, one of the members for the county of Prince William; Mr. Kinchen Godwin, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; and Mr. Abraham Bird, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Richard Lee, John Powell, Francis Goode, William Royall, Samuel Goode, John Hooe. Kinchen Godwin and Abraham Bird, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Mr. James Bates, one of the members for the county of Halifax, be discharged out of the custody of the serjeant at arms, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business;

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 29, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. George Watkins, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Mr. John Breckenridge, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Mr. Creed Haskins, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; Mr. Thomas Coleman, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; Mr. Nathaniel Harrison, one of the members for the county of Prince George; and Mr. Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said George Watkins, John Breckenridge, Creed Haskins, Thomas Coleman, Nathaniel Harrison and Francis Peyton, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Beverley Winslow, one of the members for the county of Spotsylvania; and Mr. Lyddall Bacon, one of the members for the county of New Kent, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday,

*Ordered*, That the said Beverly Winslow and Lyddall Bacon, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, and on the bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof,'" be revived.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Colonel William Davies, commissioner of the War Office, enclosing sundry returns from that department; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of John Harris, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of July last, he had thirty-nine head of cattle taken from him for the use of the troops under the command of Major General La Fayette, for which no valuation being had, or certificate given him, he cannot obtain satisfaction without the interposition of this House; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Chew, jun.; setting forth, that he was a lieutenant in Colonel Stubblefield's regiment of militia at the battle of Camden, in which he was badly wounded, and rendered incapable of obtaining a subsistence by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Duncan Rose; setting forth, that he advanced several sums of money and quantities of tobacco for public use, during the exhausted state of the treasury, and has an arrearage of pay due him as a member of the Board of Trade, for which he cannot procure payment; and praying that some mode may be directed to liquidate his claim against the public, and render him payment.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

An engrossed bill, "for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg, in the county of Spotsylvania," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg, in the county of Spotsylvania."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the bill to the Senate and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing letters from the superintendent of finance, and the secretary of Foreign Affairs, which were read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the register of the Land Office to appoint a deputy on the western waters;" and that Messrs. Page, Greene and Boone, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth; of four members of the Privy Council or Council of State; of a delegate to



represent this State in Congress; of a Judge of the General Court; and of an Auditor of Public Accounts, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

A petition of Elizabeth Flood, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that Mr. Archibald M'Caul, who married a daughter of the petitioner, left this State, together with his daughter Catharine, some time in the year 1773; that since their departure the said Catharine hath by the death of the petitioner's husband, become entitled to a very considerable estate, which, together with the estate of the said Archibald M'Caul, comes within the operation of the act of escheat and forfeiture; that the said Archibald M'Caul, although desirous of returning to Virginia, with his daughter Catharine, hath not yet been able to procure the necessary passports for so doing; and praying that they may be permitted so to do, and their estates be restored to them.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Page reported, according to order, the resolutions agreed to on Tuesday by the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the paper money of this State, now in circulation, ought not to pass current after the day of \_\_\_\_\_ except in taxes now due; and that the said money ought to be then called in and burnt; and that the treasurer give to each holder of the said money, a certificate of his having received the same, at an exchange of \_\_\_\_\_ which said certificate, shall bear an interest of six per centum per annum.

*Resolved*, That certain funds ought to be established, for the redemption of the certificates so given in years; and that the produce of the said funds, be applied sacredly, to the said purposes of paying the interest and principal aforesaid, and no other.

*Resolved*, That this State's quota of continental money now out, ought to be called in; and that a tax be laid for that purpose, to be paid in the said money, or in specie, at an exchange of \_\_\_\_\_ and that the treasurer be directed to receive the same for land warrants, at the same rate now paid in the present current money of this State.

*Resolved*, That the true value of the Loan Office certificates of this State now out ought to be ascertained, calculating the same by tobacco at twenty shillings per hundred weight and the price current of that commodity at the time the money was lent; and that the treasurer pay the interest due, or to become due thereon, accordingly.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Page, Meriwether Smith, Henry, Nicholas, Tyler, Taylor of Caroline, Banister, Eppes, Zachariah Johnson, Peyton, Holmes, Hunter, Strother, Talbot, Lomax, Ronald, Pickett, Stith, Cabell and Alexander, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to proceed to-morrow, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, and sundry other officers of government; also, they have appointed a committee to examine the treasurer's accounts. And then he withdrew.

The House, proceeded to nominate persons proper to be balloted for as Governor or Chief Magistrate; members of the Privy Council or Council of State; a delegate to represent this State in Congress; a Judge of the General Court, and an Auditor of Public Accounts.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry lists of the persons so nominated, to the Senate.

A bill, "to suspend the operation of the act, to empower the court of Greenbrier county, to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse to the eastern waters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That provisions ought not to be impressed for the support of the British prisoners, after the 20th day of December next.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of this State in Congress, ought to be directed to represent to that body, the inability of this country, in the present exhausted state of its treasury, to furnish those supplies.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have added sundry persons to the nominations for a Governor or Chief Magistrate; members of the Privy Council or Council of State; and an Auditor of Public Accounts. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Page reported, according to order, a bill "to empower the register of the Land Office, to appoint a deputy on the western waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bell be added to the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act for establishing the county of Illinois,' and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, November 30, 1781.

A petition of Archibald Cary, was presented to the House, and read; praying that a ferry may be established from his land on the south side of James river, to Stegar's Island on the north side.

Also, a petition of John Dixon; setting forth, that on the incursion of General Arnold to this place, his books and papers were destroyed, among which was a Loan Office certificate, to the amount of six hundred pounds and upwards; and praying that the said certificate may be made good to him.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of sundry officers of this State, in the continental service, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have suffered great inconvenience from the depreciation of their pay, considerable arrearages of which are now due to them; that supplies of clothing and other necessities have been very deficient, and that they are much aggrieved by a preclusion of the rights of denization, in common with other citizens; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to Messrs. Henry, Tyler, Nicholas, Holmes, Francis Peyton, Mayo and Banister; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the operation of the act to empower the court of Greenbrier county, to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse, to the eastern waters;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to suspend the operation of the act to empower the court of Greenbrier county to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse, to the eastern waters."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Mayo, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Mayo, praying that a public ferry may be established from his land in the county of Chesterfield, across James River, to his land in the town of Richmond, and to the Sandy Bar, be rejected.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for dividing the county of Bedford" was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill "to empower the register of the Land Office, to appoint a deputy on the western waters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Mathews:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the supplying the British prisoners with provisions, with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, in the room of Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes; Messrs. Cabell, White, Lee, Banister and Page, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Benjamin Harrison Esq. (of Berkeley.)

The House proceeded in the same manner, to the choice of four members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Andrew Lewis, Esq. deceased; and of William Fleming, John Walker and Samuel M'Dowell, Esquires, who have resigned.

And it appears from the report of Messrs. Nicholas, Carter, Zachariah Johnson, Banister, Lee and Tyler, the committee appointed in conjunction with a committee from the Senate, to examine the ballot boxes; that the majority of votes was in favor of Beverley Randolph, Thomas Lomax, Sampson Mathews and Saint George Tucker, Esqrs.

The House proceeded in the same manner, to the choice of a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the first Monday in November next, in the room of John Blair, Esq. who hath resigned.

And it appears from the report of Messrs. Page, Banister and Alexander, the committee appointed in conjunction with a committee from the Senate, to examine the ballot boxes, that the majority of votes was in favor of Thomas Jefferson, Esquire.

The House proceeded in the same manner, to the choice of a Judge of the General Court, in the room of John Tazewell, Esquire, deceased.

And it appears from the report of Messrs. Garrard, Page, Lee and Woodson, the committee appointed in conjunction with a committee from the Senate, to examine the ballot boxes, that the majority of votes was in favor of James Mercer, Esquire.

The House proceeded in the same manner, to the choice of an Auditor of Public Accounts, in the room of Edward Archer, Esq. who hath resigned.

And it appears from the report of Messrs. Hunter, Smith (of Gloucester,) and Bell, the committee appointed in conjunction with a committee from the Senate, to examine the ballot boxes, that the majority of votes was in favor of John Boush, Esquire.

*Resolved*, That Benjamin Harrison of Berkeley, Esq. be appointed Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth for one year; he having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See p. 24.*

*Resolved*, That Beverley Randolph, Thomas Lomax, Sampson Mathews and Saint George Tucker, Esquires, be appointed members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Andrew Lewis, Esq. deceased; and of William Fleming, John Walker and Samuel McDowell, Esquires, who have resigned; they having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See p. 24.*

*Resolved*, That Thomas Jefferson, Esq. be appointed a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the first Monday in November next, in the room of John Blair, Esq. who hath resigned; he having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See p. 24.*

*Resolved*, That James Mercer, Esq. be appointed a Judge of the General Court, in the room of John Tazewell, Esq. deceased; he having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See p. 24.*

*Resolved*, That John Boush, Esq. be appointed an Auditor of Public Accounts, in the room of Edward Archer, Esq. who hath resigned; he having been so elected by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *See p. 24.*

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Robert Baine, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Robert Baine, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the property of the said Robert Baine, sold by virtue of the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects," and purchased by the public; ought to be restored to him, with compensation for the use thereof, upon his taking the oath of allegiance to this State.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That retribution ought to be made the said Robert Baine, in manner directed by the said act, for so much of his property as was sold to individuals.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That compensation ought to be made the said Robert Baine, for any timber that may have been taken off the land for public use.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clendinnen be added to the committee of Trade.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight.

A petition of William Browder was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that on the incursion of the enemy to Petersburg, in the month of May last, he had a valuable mare taken by them, which was at the time actually employed in removing public stores; and praying to be paid for the said mare.

Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Boyd's Hole, setting forth that the warehouses at the said inspection had been twice broken open, without the default of the petitioners, and certain tobacco stolen thereout; and praying to be reimbursed by the public for the said loss.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the several resolutions appointing Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley



ley, Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth; Beverley Randolph, Thomas Lomax, Sampson Mathews and Saint George Tucker, Esquires, members of the Privy Council or Council of State; Thomas Jefferson, Esq. a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress; James Mercer, Esq. a Judge of the General Court; and John Boush Esq. an Auditor of Public Accounts. And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bill, for further continuing "an act, entitled 'an act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;' being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, December 1, 1781.

Mr. Bell, a delegate for the county of Buckingham, reminded the House of the necessity of proceeding to the choice of a Speaker in the room of the Honorable Benjamin Harrison, Esq. appointed Governor of the Commonwealth; and he recommended John Tyler, Esq. a delegate for the county of Charles City, as a person duly qualified to discharge the duties of that important office; he was seconded by Mr. Henry, a delegate for the county of Henry; whereupon Mr. Tyler was elected without opposition, and conducted to the chair, from whence he made his acknowledgements to the House for the honor they had been pleased to confer upon him, and requested their aid towards the maintenance of order, and the despatch of public business.

The House being informed that Mr. John Page, one of the members for the county of Gloucester, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last,

*Ordered*, That the said John Page, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Gordon, one of the members for the county of Northumberland; and Mr. Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Gordon and Adam Stephen, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That writs issue for the election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, for the county of Charles City, in the room of the Honorable Benjamin Harrison, Esq. appointed Governor of the Commonwealth; and for the county of Caroline, in the room of Thomas Lomax, Esq. appointed a member of the Privy Council or Council of State.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the register of the Land Office to appoint a deputy on the western waters," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, to empower the register of the Land Office, to appoint a deputy on the western waters."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Green do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Bedford," was read the third time.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said bill be recommitted to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

It was resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Richardson and Eppes, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday next.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from proceeding on the petition of Elizabeth Flood, to them referred.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, to suspend the operation of the "act, concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Hunter and Henry, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of John Kinkeade, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that agreeable to appointment of the county court of Washington, he, in conjunction with the other commissioners, proceeded on and effected the opening a road through the Cumberland mountains to Kentucky; and praying to be paid for the said service.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hanover, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they suffer great inconvenience by the discontinuance of the inspection at Meriwether's in the said county; and praying that the said inspection may be revived.

Also, a petition of Esther Aston; setting forth, that her deceased husband, George Aston, was a captain in the service of his country during the last war, and never received any bounty of land; and praying that the same bounty of land allowed to others in similar cases, may be granted to her.

Also, several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Washington, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they are much disturbed in their possession by occupancy of vacant lands, agreeable to law, by the claims of the Loyal Company under illicit surveys; and praying that the land laws may be explained and amended so as to quiet them in their possessions.

Also, a petition of Joseph Cabell, Harry Innes and Nicholas Cabell, commissioners for settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands within the district of Washington and Montgomery, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That no further payments for horses impressed into the public service be made, or accounts for the same be audited, until the further order of the General Assembly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg in the county of Spottsylvania.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to suspend the execution of an act ‘to empower the court of Greenbrier county to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse to the eastern waters;’” also, to the bill “for further continuing an act, entitled ‘an act to exempt artificers employed at iron works, from militia duty;’” and also, to the bill “to repeal an act, entitled ‘an act, for farther continuing an act, entitled ‘an act to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo for a limited time.’” And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bill “for further continuing an act, entitled ‘an act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;’” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 3, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. James Kee, one of the members for the county of Surry, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said James Kee be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Charles Patteson, one of the members for the county of Buckingham, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last,

*Ordered*, That the said Charles Patteson be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page of Gloucester, be added to the committees of Propositions and Grievances and Privileges and Elections; and Mr. Gordon, to the committee of Trade.

A petition of William Jones, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he received a wound at the battle of Brandywine, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Simster; setting forth, that he received a wound at the defeat of Col. Buford, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Surry, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the destruction of the warehouses at Cabin Point, hath produced great disadvantages to the petitioners, and that as the said warehouses cannot be speedily rebuilt, they are desirous the same should be discontinued; and praying that an inspection may be established at Low Point in the said county, on the land of Archibald Dunlop, gentleman.

Also, a petition of Archibald Dunlop, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Andrew Moore presented, according to order, a bill “to oblige such counties within this Commonwealth, as have not furnished their proportion of men under the respective laws for filling this State’s quota of continental troops, to make up their deficiencies;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to amend an act ‘for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;’” and that Messrs. Aaron Lewis, Southall and Moore, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had the petition of John Harris, to them referred, under their consideration, and agreed to a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee to whom the accounts of the Honorable Cyrus Griffin, Esq. was referred, that the committee had, according to order, examined and stated the same, and had agreed to a report and reso-

lution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were agreed to by the House, as followeth: *nemine contra dicente*.

It appears to your committee, that the said Cyrus Griffin, Esq. was appointed one of the delegates to represent this State in Congress, and that he served in that capacity from the 19th of August, 1778, to the 19th of June, 1780, being in all the space of twenty-two months.

It appears to your committee, that the said Cyrus Griffin, Esq. drew from the public at different periods several sums of paper currency, amounting to 165,293 dollars, and that he paid out of the same to sundry persons on public account the sum of 24,500 paper dollars; after deducting which sum, the said Cyrus Griffin stands charged 140,793 paper dollars, as so much advanced him in part to pay his expenses whilst in the delegation: your committee having reduced the aforesaid sum into specie by a table of depreciation, adopted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, find it amounts to 3,184 1-4 specie dollars, which appears to be the amount of all the money the said Cyrus Griffin hath drawn from the public, on account of expenses whilst in the delegation.

Your committee have calculated the amount of the said Cyrus Griffin's expenses, with which the State ought to be charged whilst in Congress, and having reduced the same to specie by the aforesaid table, find the amount of the same to be 6,442 dollars in specie, during the aforesaid space of twenty-two months, being ten dollars and about one eighteenth of a dollar per day.

Your committee having taken into consideration the wages allowed the delegates at the commencement of the revolution, which was eight dollars per day, and the difference between the value of money at that time and the present, are of opinion that the aforesaid expense of ten dollars and one eighteenth of a dollar per day, is reasonable.

Your committee, on stating the said Cyrus Griffin's account in manner above mentioned, find there is a balance due to him from this State of 3,258 dollars in specie.

*Resolved therefore, as the opinion of this committee*, That the said Cyrus Griffin, Esq. hath a just claim on this State, for the above sum of 3,258 dollars in specie, and that the treasurer for the State, ought to be directed to pay the same to him, out of the first public monies that may be in his hands.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A memorial of the officers belonging to the regiments and corps, raised for the particular defence of this Commonwealth, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have suffered great inconveniences by the depreciation of their pay, and the arrearages thereof due to them, as well as of the deficiencies of clothing, to which they are entitled; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to Messrs. Henry, Nicholas, Taylor of Caroline, Holmes, Peyton, Mayo and Banister; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That all the public arms and military stores, not in immediate use, ought to be distributed into a number of small magazines, so situated as to be readily drawn into service upon occasion, and at the same time so distant from navigation, as to secure them from any sudden incursion of the enemy; and that the Executive do take order for the distribution and security of the said public arms and military stores, agreeable to this resolution, reserving 1500 stand of the said arms, to be distributed in the eastern parts of this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, That in order to encourage the importation of arms and ammunition in future, the same ought not to be seized or impressed, from either the importers or purchasers, on any account or pretence whatsoever.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, that no farther payments be made, or accounts audited, for horses impressed, until the further order of the Assembly. And then he withdrew.

The House being informed that Mr. Carter Braxton, one of the members for the county of King William; and Mr. Nicholas Hopson, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Carter Braxton and Nicholas Hopson, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for farther continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof,'" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



TUESDAY, December 4, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Benjamin Dulaney, one of the members for the county of Fairfax, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Benjamin Dulaney be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "to suspend the operation of the act concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to oblige such counties within this Commonwealth, as have not furnished their proportion of men under the respective laws, for filling this State's quota of continental troops, to make up their deficiencies;" was read the third time.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said bill be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the third Thursday in February next;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The House being informed, that Mr. Thomas Mathews, one of the members for the county of Norfolk, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Mathews be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. George Watkins, and Williams, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next.

A memorial of sundry inhabitants of the county of Berkeley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive the laws of impress were impolitic and unjust, and when delegated to the Executive, unconstitutional; that they have been greatly distressed by the execution of the said laws, as well as by furnishing supplies for continental purposes; payment for which, hath been withheld from them; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill or bills, on the resolutions for calling in and redeeming the paper currency now in circulation, be discharged therefrom; and that the said resolutions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Cabell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the paper money of this State, now in circulation, ought not to pass current, after the day of \_\_\_\_\_ except in taxes now due; and that the said money ought to be then called in and burnt; and that the treasurer give to each holder of the said money, a certificate of his having received the same, at an exchange of one thousand dollars for one, which said certificates shall bear an interest of six per centum per annum.

*Resolved*, That certain funds ought to be established for the redemption of the certificates so given, in seven years; and that the produce of the said funds be applied, sacredly to the said purposes of paying the interest and principal aforesaid, and no other.

*Resolved*, That this State's quota of continental money now out, ought to be called in; and that a tax be laid for that purpose, to be paid in the said money, or in specie, at an exchange of one thousand dollars for one; and that the treasurer be directed to receive the same for land warrants at the same rate, now paid in the present current money of this State.

*Resolved*, That an equitable adjustment be made with the holders of Loan Office certificates, which have not been transferred, so as to give them the value of the money at first advanced, in specie, with interest; so soon as the circumstances of the Commonwealth will permit.

*Resolved*, That an equitable adjustment be made with the holders of Loan Office certificates, which have been transferred, so as to give them the true value of such certificates, in specie, with interest; to be reckoned according to the state of depreciation at the time of the last transfer, so soon as the circumstances of the Commonwealth will permit.

The first and second resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The third, fourth and fifth resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions; and that Messrs. Cabell, Henry, Smith, of Essex, Taylor of Caroline, and Nicholas do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing letters from General Washington, and the Hon. Major General Marquis La Fayette; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for far-

ther continuing the act, for establishing the county of Illinois, and 'for the more effectual protection and defence thereof,' being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 5, 1781.

A petition of Anne Thompson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a wounded soldier of General Wayne's brigade, was left at her house, and remained there, to the great expense and inconvenience of the petitioner, five months; and praying to be made compensation for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to secure to the persons who derive titles to lots, lands or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust of the late William Bird, Esq. a permanent fee simple estate therein; and that Messrs. Southall, Smith of Essex, and Nicholas, do prepare and bring in the same.

Several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, whose names are thereunto subscribed, were presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences from the great extent of their county; and praying that the same may be divided and formed into two distinct counties, agreeable to certain boundaries, therein expressed.

Also, several petitions of sundry other inhabitants of the said county, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereto.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petitions be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stevens be added to the committee, to whom the letters from General Clarke were referred; and Mr. Patteson to the committee of Trade.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Cabell, Ronald, Stith, William Moore, Smith of Gloucester, Joel Watkins, Bowdoin, Southall, Greene and Alexander.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That all the paper money, hitherto issued by this State, be called in on or before the day of 1782.

*Resolved*, That all the aforesaid paper money be funded at the difference of one thousand for one; and that the holders thereof be allowed Loan Office certificates, payable in specie, with interest, on or before the day of

*Resolved*, That laws ought to be established for the equitable adjustment of all debts and contracts, entered into since the day of which are now due and unsatisfied, or which may become due hereafter.

*Resolved*, That in all cases where partial payments have been made in current money, towards the discharge of any debts or contracts, the same shall not be reduced.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Nicholas, Cabell, Henry, Meriwether Smith, Taylor of Caroline, Ronald, Braxton and John Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for encouraging the importation of arms; with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Boone, Greene and Swearingham, be added to the committee to whom the letters from General Clarke were referred.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts, have power to send for any books or papers from the auditor's office, which they may deem necessary for their information.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for adjusting the accounts and claim of William Harrison, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Banister reported, from the committee to whom the petition of John Gibson, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said petition under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for suspending the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" and on the bill "for further continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 6, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a paper of instructions to the delegates of King and Queen county; and an extract of a letter from Thomas Newton, Esq. respecting the Cape lands; which were read.

*Ordered*, That the paper of instructions to the delegates of King and Queen county, be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

*Ordered*, That the Governor's letter, with the extract of Mr. Newton's letter, do lie on the table.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "for restoring to Robert Baine his former estate;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "to secure to persons who derive titles to lots, lands or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust, of the late William Byrd, Esq. a fee simple estate therein;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the relief of persons who have been, or may be injured by the destruction of the records of any of the county courts;" and that Messrs. Southall, William Moore, Nicholas and Banister, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of William Black, was presented to the House, and read; praying that a ferry may be established from his land on the south side of James river, to the public landing at Rocketts, on the north side.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Cabell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the officers of the first, second and third State regiments, the State garrison regiment, the State artillery regiment, Clerk's and Crockett's regiments, and Slaughter's and Rogers's corps, except so many as are necessary to command the men actually in service, be reduced.

*Resolved*, That the officers and men who are retained in service, ought to be consolidated into one or more corps; and that as the enlistments of the men expire, a proportionable reduction ought to be made of officers.

*Resolved*, That all the State quarter-masters of every denomination; and all commissaries, either of purchases, issues, or belonging to a county, ought to be dismissed; and that the Executive ought to appoint a quarter-master and commissary, for the remaining troops.

*Resolved*, That the Navy department ought to be reduced.

*Resolved*, That the pay-master general of the navy and army ought to be dismissed.

*Resolved*, That the hospital department of this State ought to be discontinued; that the regimental surgeons of the corps which shall remain in service, should be furnished with such supplies as are necessary for taking care of their sick; and that a competent stock of hospital stores ought to be provided by the Executive, to answer in case of emergency.

*Resolved*, That any surplus of provisions, which may be in possession of the State quarter-masters or commissaries, and are of a perishable nature, ought to be delivered over to the similar continental departments, under the direction of the Executive, and proper receipts to be lodged with the auditors, taken therefor.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Cabell, Henry, Meriwether Smith, Banister, Nicholas, Taylor of Caroline, and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee to whom the memorial of the officers of the Virginia line, in continental service was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had



come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the whole pay of the troops be made good, from the first of January, 1777, according to their times of service.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That auditors, well acquainted with the business of the army, be immediately appointed, for the express purpose of liquidating and adjusting the accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line in continental service; and that certificates, equal to specie, be given individually for the respective balances.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That in the mean time, like certificates be given for the amount of two year's pay, to all officers now of the line, who were in service prior to the first of May, 1777; and to those who have since come into service, similar certificates shall issue for one year, provided they have been in service one year.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the wages of the officers and soldiers in future, ought to be paid once in every quarter of a year, at least.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That where it shall appear to the auditors, that from captivity or other circumstances, officers had sufficient reasons why their accounts were not settled, or where it shall be manifested that there has been no misapplication on their part of the public monies, which may have been in their hands; that in such cases no depreciation shall be charged; and that where it shall be made to appear, that officers have advanced of their own monies for the public service, they shall be allowed the depreciation.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the tract of land included within the rivers Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee, and the Carolina line, be substituted in lieu of such part of the country formerly allotted for the troops, which has been since taken within the Carolina boundary, excluding such lands as are actually located therein; and the several apportionments be made by surveyors, to be appointed for that purpose, when the Executive shall think proper, and the lands be appropriated by lot, and to be free from taxation during the continuance of the present war; subject however, to revert to the State on resignation or forfeiture of commission respectively.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That reduced officers on half pay ought to be eligible as members of the General Assembly.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Henry, Nicholas, Holmes, Peyton, Mayo, Banister, and Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

**MR. SPEAKER,**—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to empower the Register of the Land Office to appoint a deputy on the western waters;" also, to the resolution respecting the accounts of Cyrus Griffin, Esquire. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the reasonable expenses of the officers, deputed on behalf of the officers of this State in the continental line, to attend the General Assembly on the subject of their memorial, ought to be paid by the public treasurer.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Braxton have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Kee be added to the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to suspend the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" and also, on the bill "for further continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" being read,

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## FRIDAY, December 7, 1781.

A bill, "for restoring to Robert Baine his former estate;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to secure to the persons who derive titles to lots, lands or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust, of the late William Byrd, Esq. a fee simple estate therein;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A bill, "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the proprietors of the lead mines, to work the same;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for dividing the county of Bedford," was recommended, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;'" and that Messrs. Harrison of Prince George, Meriwether Smith, Morgan and Syme, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Archibald Cary, praying that a ferry may be established from his land on the south side of James River, to Steager's Island on the opposite shore, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Black, praying that a ferry may be established from his land across James River, to the public landing at Rocketts, on the opposite shore, is reasonable.

The 1st resolution was read the second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The 2d resolution was read the second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A petition of John Meade, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by a report from the Senate to this House, respecting a claim of the petitioners which was presented to a former Assembly and allowed, and in which there was an error, he is injured to the amount of three hundred pounds; and praying to be allowed the said sum, together with the depreciation thereupon.

Also, a petition of John Conner; setting forth, that he received a wound at the battle of Camden, which occasioned his discharge from the service, and disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fayette, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have, at considerable risk and expense, established a settlement at Lexington in the said county, and laid off a town there; and praying that the same may be established a town, by act of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That a Court of Claims ought to be held in each respective county throughout the State, for the purpose of settling and adjusting all debts which may be due, or certificates given, for the property impressed or purchased for the use of the army.

*Resolved*, That a return of the same, be made through the Executive, to the next General Assembly, in order that ways and means may be adopted for the payment thereof.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Nicholas, Banister, Stevens, Henry, Eppes and Nathaniel Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, to make an estimate of the sums of money, and the quantities of specifics that may be necessary for the support of civil government, and all other expenses for the ensuing year; and that such committee report to this House their opinion also of the most speedy and effectual mode of raising such supplies.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Cabell, Meriwether Smith, Banister, Ronald, Talbot, Taylor of Caroline, Page, Nicholas, Nathaniel Harrison, Johnson, William Moore, Southall and Andrew Moore.

*Ordered*, That five of the said committee be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to suppress the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;'" and also, on the bill "for further continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.  
And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

SATURDAY, December 23, 1781.

A member returned on a new writ, having taken the oaths required by law, took his seat in the House.

An engrossed bill, "to secure to the persons who derive titles to lands, lots, or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust, of the late William Byrd, Esq. a fee simple estate therein;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to secure to the persons who derive titles to lots, lands, or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust, of the late William Byrd, Esq. a fee simple estate therein."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for restoring to Robert Baine his former estate;" was read the third time.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said bill be recommitted to the same committee, It was resolved in the affirmative.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Bedford;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dividing the county of Bedford."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to empower the proprietors of the lead mines to work the same;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, presented, according to order, a bill "for the reduction of the military and naval arrangements of this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of John Conner, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has made considerable advances for the service of this State, in the Illinois and western country; that in part for one claim, he has received a sum of paper money in a depreciated state, which at the time of receiving it, he was not aware of, whereby he has sustained considerable injury; that his other claims are yet unsatisfied; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Morgan; setting forth, that at the defeat of Col. Buford to the southward, he received several wounds, which have disabled him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Samuel Godwin, administrator of Thomas Fisher, deceased; setting forth, that the said Fisher was a volunteer of the Chesterfield militia, and fell opposing the enemy near Manchester, leaving them in possession of his horse and accoutrements; and praying that the heir of the said Fisher, may be made compensation for the said horse and accoutrements.

Also, a petition of William Branch; setting forth, that on the approach of the British army to Petersburg, he furnished a horse for the service of the cavalry, which was disabled therein; and praying to be made compensation for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county and borough of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the losses they have sustained by the depredations of the enemy, will, they fear, render them unable to pay the usual taxes for the support of government; and praying relief.

Also, a memorial of William Bower; setting forth, that in the attack of the enemy at Jamestown, he commanded a rifle battalion, and was taken prisoner; that a number of the men of his command furnished their own horses for the service, agreeable to the orders of government, several of which fell into the hands of the enemy; that he is not exchanged; and praying that he may be allowed the emoluments of a continental officer in the like situation; and that such of the men under his command who lost their horses, may be paid for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition and memorial be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the sum of 150*l.* specie, be laid out by the State agent, in the purchase of such necessary household stuff for the use of the Governor's house, as the Governor shall direct.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to confer with the public printer, on the subject of publishing a weekly paper of intelligence, and to report thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, John Page, John Scasbrooke Wells, Russell, Dulaney, and Meriwether Smith.

Mr. Banister reported, from the committee to whom the petition of John Gibson, was recommitted, that the com-



mittee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had thereupon come to several solutions, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the petition is reasonable.

*Resolved*, That the sum of one thousand four hundred and twenty five pounds sixteen shillings and nine pence, advanced by the petitioner to Brigadier General George Rogers Clarke, for the public use, ought to be paid him, with interest from the time the same became due; and that the treasurer be directed to pay the same, as soon as he shall have in his hands sufficient for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That the said John Gibson, be allowed his reasonable expenses in travelling to and from the Assembly, on this business; and that the auditors of public accounts, do settle and ascertain the same.

The first resolution was read the second time;

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said resolution be amended by striking out the words "is reasonable," and inserting the words "be rejected,"

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The said resolution, with the amendment, was then again read; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second and third resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "to suspend the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" and on the bill "for further continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday.

And then the House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 10, 1781.

A bill, "for reduction of the military and naval arrangements of this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of county courts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Lewis presented, according to order, a bill, "to amend 'an act, entitled 'an act for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Norfolk, praying to be relieved from paying the usual taxes, necessary for the support of government, be rejected,

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of William Bowyer, praying that he may be allowed the same advantages as continental officers, whilst he continues a prisoner upon parole, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that compensation may be made for the horses, taken into public service by order of government, in the county of Augusta, to mount the militia thereof, and which were lost in the service, is reasonable; and that the like proceedings be had for adjusting the same, as shall be provided in cases of impressment.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to confer with the public printer, on the subject of publishing a weekly paper of intelligence, be discharged therefrom.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to suspend the operation of 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;" and that Mr. Nicholas do prepare and bring in the same.

The House being informed, that Mr. Thomas Newton, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; and Mr. James Innes, member for the city of Williamsburg, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Wednesday the 23th ultimo,

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Newton and James Innes, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the operation of 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Innes be added to the committee of Trade; and Messrs. Jefferson and Arthur Lee, to the committee of supply and finance.

A petition and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince William, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; stating that they labor under divers grievances which have proceeded from the several acts of the Legislature, vesting extraordinary powers in the Executive; authorising impresses, laying an embargo, and making the paper money a legal tender; that under the former acts the greatest violation and abuse of power has taken place; and the late Governor, assuming a dispensing power over the laws, and disregarding their necessary and positive restraints, issued his warrants without the advice of Council, authorising impresses without any limitation of kind, quantity or proportion, other than the arbitrary will and pleasure of the persons to whom they were directed; which they consider as of the most dangerous and fatal tendency, sapping the foundation of the Commonwealth, and the rights and liberties of the people; subversive of all order and regularity, and opening a door to fraud, partiality, private prejudice, injustice and oppression. That they are also informed the said Governor prohibited the purchase of provisions for the supply of the French troops, choosing rather to supply them by seizure: thus distressing the people, and preventing the circulation of a considerable sum in specie. That the embargo law, by preventing the sale of the commodities of the country, tends to the discouragement of industry and the impoverishment of the people. That the tender laws, have produced great and numerous evils, stained the national character; and, by encouraging knavery and legalizing fraud, have corrupted and depraved the morals of the people. And praying that the several laws complained of, may be amended or repealed; and such other measures adopted in the premises, as the General Assembly shall judge most conducive to the permanent welfare and happiness of the people.

*Ordered*, That the said petition and remonstrance be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of the merchants and traders of the town of Richmond, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that an inspection of tobacco at Rockett's landing near the said town, would be of great advantage to the trade thereof, as well as of general public utility; and praying that such an inspection may be established.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Richard Evers Lee, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was one-fourth owner of the sloop Warwick, which was burnt at Osborne's on the approach of the British in the month of June last; that the said vessel was burnt by the orders of Baron Steuben and Commodore Lewis, for the security of the trading fleet, then at that place; and praying to be made compensation for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to suspend the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects,'" "for further continuing the act 'for establishing the county of Illinois and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof,'" "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and, "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" being read.

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 11, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Major General Green, which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A bill, "for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of county courts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Southall, William Moore, Nicholas and Banister.

A bill, "for farther continuing 'an act, for giving farther time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to suspend the operation of 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States, to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On motion made,

It being represented that there is good ground to suspect that a sheriff of Frederick county, hath transferred a large number of certificates for provisions taken by the commissioners of the provision law, with design to obtain the interest and depreciation allowed by law, although it is suggested they were paid in taxes;

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to examine into the matter aforesaid, and report their proceedings to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Strother, Mathews, Holmes, Nicholas and Stevens.



Mr. Banister reported, from the committee appointed to examine General Clarke's letters and to confer with Major Crittendon, that the committee had, according to order, examined the same and conferred with sundry persons acquainted with the subject contained in the said letters, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

That it is the opinion of several persons who have conferred with your committee, that the country of Kentucky is in the greatest danger of being annoyed if not totally subjugated by the British and Indians from Detroit and the tribes between that post and the Ohio, if an expedition is not carried on against them early in the Spring: that the force requisite for this purpose would be two thousand men. That if this offensive operation could be carried into execution it would secure to us the amity and attachment of a great number of Indians, who would act in conjunction with us; but if neglected they will act against us in great force. That the consequence would be fatal to our interest in that country, as the people must either desert it or submit to British government; that an expedition against Detroit, would require nine hundred pack horses, at ten pounds each, besides those already in the country, computed to be one hundred; twelve thousand weight of powder, and twenty-four thousand weight of lead. That besides the flour now on hand, four thousand bushels of corn would be required, which might be obtained for four hundred pounds specie. That the distance from the falls of the Ohio to the object in view is between three and four hundred miles. That of the supplies necessary, should the expedition be judged practicable, there are on hand two hundred thousand pounds of flour at the falls of the Ohio, eight thousand weight of powder, sixteen hundred weight of lead and from six to eight hundred bushels of salt. This being a summary of inquiries respecting an offensive operation against Detroit, your committee proceeded to examine into the nature and extent of a defensive war for the preservation of the country, which your committee beg leave also to report specially, as follows:

That it appeared from concurrent opinions of other persons acquainted with the country, that it might be defended by keeping up garrisons at the following posts: the falls of Ohio, the mouth of Kentucky river, the mouth of Licking creek, and at the mouth of Lime Stone creek. That the defence of these posts would require six or seven hundred men, and two gun boats at each of the posts, which might be manned from the respective garrisons; and thus supported, the inhabitants would be enabled to defend themselves against the incursions of the enemy, as well as occasionally to attack them. That the distance of the falls to the mouth of Kentucky river is seventy-five miles by water; from thence to the mouth of Licking creek, one hundred miles; and from thence to the mouth of Lime Stone creek, one hundred and ten miles. That the gun boats will be a great means of preventing the Indians from crossing the Ohio and attacking the posts or the inhabitants on the river. It farther appears to your committee, that there is a great prospect of increasing population in that country from the late emigrations to it; and that this circumstance may lessen the necessity of so large a force as is above stated.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the proposed expedition against Detroit, ought not for the present to be attempted.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That some plan of defence ought to be adopted for the security of the inhabitants of this State residing in Kentucky; and that the Executive do, from time to time, take such measures, for that purpose, as circumstances may admit.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Major Crittendon, ought to be allowed his reasonable expenses in attending the Assembly on this business, as well as his travelling expenses; and that the auditors of public accounts do settle the same.

*Ordered,* That the petitions of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Richmond, King George and Westmoreland, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Stith be added to the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

A memorial of the officers of General Clarke's regiment, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a certain quantity of land was reserved to be distributed amongst them, in the cession made by this State to the United States; that Congress having refused that cession, they are apprehensive a future Assembly may repeal the same, and deprive them of the benefit thereof; and praying that an equal quantity of land may be now assigned them.

Also, a petition of sundry merchants and traders of the town of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition of sundry other merchants and traders of the said town, praying that an inspection for tobacco may be established at Rockett's landing.

*Ordered,* That the said memorial and petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry persons, sufferers in General Arnold's expedition to the town of Richmond, in the month of January last, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that certain houses belonging to the petitioners in the town of Richmond, which were taken and occupied by the public previous to the said invasion, were burnt by the enemy for that reason; and praying to be paid for the same.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the reduction of the military and naval arrangements of this State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill



under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to inquire into the information respecting John Hopkins, be discharged therefrom, and that the resolutions of the 19th and 20th of last month, containing the proceedings thereupon, as transcending the powers of this House, be rescinded.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to suspend the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects';" "for further continuing the act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 12, 1781.

An engrossed bill, "for the reduction of the military and naval arrangements of this State," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for the reduction of the military and naval arrangements of this State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the operation of an act, 'to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes';" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, 'to suspend the operation of an act, 'to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had several petitions to them referred under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the engrossed bill, "for restoring to Robert Baine his former estate," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

An engrossed bill, "for restoring to Robert Baine, his former estate;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for restoring to Robert Baine, his former estate."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Southall reported, from the committee to whom was referred the bill, "for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of county courts," that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A petition of Thomas Newton and Preston Bowdoin, executors of Robert Tucker, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a piece of land belonging to the estate of their testator, was taken for the public use, and fortifications erected thereon, for the defence of the town of Portsmouth; and praying that the said estate may be compensated for the damage done thereto.

Also, a petition of John King; setting forth, that he received several wounds at the defeat of Col. Buford, which disables him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Trabue; setting forth, that he was a purchasing commissary for the public in the county of Kentucky, in the year 1780, and was taken prisoner by the enemy, together with his papers; that the people of whom he purchased, will be great sufferers in their claims, unless allowed the depreciation upon the certificates given by him since his release from captivity; and praying that such depreciation may be allowed on all such claims.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Solicitor General ought to be directed to give to John Poage, late sheriff of the county of Augusta, a full acquittance against a judgment entered in the General Court against him for thirty-five thousand three hundred and forty-five pounds five shillings, as sheriff, upon his paying that sum into the public treasury on or before the first day of March, 1782, without interest, depreciation, or damages.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee to whom the memorial of the officers of the State battalions and corps, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the officers of the State battalions and corps, are entitled to half pay during life, to commence from the termination of their commands in the said battalions and corps, on their becoming supernumeraries from the reduction of the battalions and corps to which they belong; subject however, to be called upon to take command in the same or higher rank, and to the forfeiture of their pay, on refusing to take command when thereunto required.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That a return of all the State officers ought to be made to the next Assembly, wherein the corps, the rank of each officer, the date of his commission, the number of men at first raised in each corps, the number of men when reduced, and time when reduced, is particularly specified by the Executive; and in which the Executive are to set on foot proper inquiries to discriminate such officers as by unworthy conduct, or by any means whatever, be thought unfit to be considered as entitled to half pay.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the whole pay of the State troops be made good, from the first of January, 1777, according to their times of service; and that the auditors be directed to liquidate and adjust immediately, the accounts of the officers and soldiers of the State battalions and corps; and that certificates equal to specie, be given immediately, for the respective balances.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the bounty of land given to the officers of the Virginia line, in continental service, and the regulations for the surveying and appropriating the same, ought to be extended to the State officers.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That State officers, reduced and on half pay, ought to be eligible as members of the General Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the State cavalry, is entitled to the same indulgencies and advantages as the infantry, and on the same terms.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the same allowance should be made to the State officers, that have attended on this Assembly on the business of the officers and soldiers of the State, for their expenses, that is made to the officers of the Virginia continental line, attending the business of that line.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the State officers who are in actual service, ought to receive the same advances of pay for their present relief, as the officers on continental service.

The first resolution was read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

The second and third resolutions, were severally read a second time, amended, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th resolutions; and that Messrs. Henry, Nicholas, Holmes, Banister, Peyton, Mayo, and Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Banister reported, from the committee appointed to state any charges and receive such information as might be offered, respecting the administration of the late Executive; that the committee did, according to order, convene for that purpose, and no information being offered on the subject matter of the said inquiry, except that some rumors prevailed, which appeared to the committee to have been the cause of the original order of the 12th of June, directing the said inquiry; that the committee had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said rumors were groundless.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the sincere thanks of the General Assembly be given to our former Governor, Thomas Jefferson, Esq. for his impartial, upright, and attentive administration of the powers of the Executive, whilst in office; popular rumors gaining some degree of credence, by more pointed accusations, rendered it necessary to make an inquiry into his conduct, and delayed that retribution of public gratitude, so eminently merited; but that conduct having become the object of open scrutiny, tenfold value is added to an approbation, founded on a cool and deliberate discussion. The Assembly wish therefore, in the strongest manner, to declare the high opinion which they entertain of Mr. Jefferson's ability, rectitude and integrity, as Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth; and mean by thus publicly avowing their opinion, to obviate all future, and to remove all former, unmerited censure.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, *namine contra dicente*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House being informed that Mr. Benjamin Harrison, one of the members for the county of Rockingham, at-

custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was on Wednesday the 28th ultimo,

*Ordered*, That the said Benjamin Harrison be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed, that Mr. Robert Cravens, one of the members for the county of Rockingham, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Cravens be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the conduct of Mr. John Hopkins, as commissioner of continental loans, respecting a malfeasance of office, charged against him.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Ronald, Strother, Arthur Lee, Henry and Travis.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to suspend the operation of the act 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "for further continuing the act for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 13, 1781.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also on the bills "to suspend the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "for further continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;" "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, December 14, 1781.

An engrossed bill, "for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of county courts," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of county courts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until the first of January next; Mr. Nicholas, until Thursday se'nnight; and Mr. Saunders, until Wednesday next.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Trade, be discharged from proceeding on the petition of James Francis Connan, to them referred.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of John Kinkade, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Kinkade, praying compensation may be made him for his trouble in superintending the opening a road through the Cumberland mountains, is reasonable; and that the petitioner be allowed the sum of 25*l.* specie.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A memorial of Daniel Clarke, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he advanced a considerable sum of money for the western service, to the agent of this State, in that department; that by orders from the Executive, Mr. Ross, the agent of trade, hath accepted to pay part of the said claim in tobacco, at a price greatly to the disadvantage of the memorialist; that neither the said acceptance, nor any part of the said claim is yet paid; and praying that the conditional acceptance aforesaid may be done away; and that this House will cause an acceptance to be made absolute and unconditional, payable at a future day, with interest.

Also, a petition of Daniel Clarke, on behalf of Oliver Pollock, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John M'Millian; setting forth, that in the year 1777, he had a wagon and team impressed into the public service, out of which three of the horses were stolen, having been previously appraised; and praying to be paid for the same.

Also, a petition of Elisha Williams; setting forth, that on the 29th of April last, about 11 o'clock at night, near



Richmond, a centinel belonging to General Nelson's brigade of militia, shot dead the only horse belonging to the petitioner; and praying to be paid for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial and petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for expending a sum of money in furniture for the use of the Governor's house, with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Washington and Montgomery, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by an *ex-parte* hearing before the Court of Appeals, they are deprived of certain lands, which, agreeable to the late land laws, they conceive themselves entitled to; and praying that the land law may be amended, so as to give the commissioners of the district a power to hear and determine in all such cases.

Also, a petition of William Inglis, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Lincoln, Fayette and Jefferson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from their detached and remote situation, they do not participate of the common benefits of government; and praying that such provision may be made for their future good government, as shall seem best to the wisdom of the Legislature.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Smith, Jefferson, Banister, Arthur Lee, Henry, Swearingham, Greene, Ronald, Carter, John Page, and Innes; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mathews be added to the committee of Trade; and Mr. Saunders, to the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to suspend the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto;

And then the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for further continuing the act, 'for establishing the county of Illinois, and for the more effectual protection and defence thereof;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Arthur Lee reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

And then the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer of this Commonwealth, for the ensuing year.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prevent the impressment of horses, wagons, carts, provisions, grain and spirits;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

And then the question being put that the said bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

Mr. Nathaniel Harrison presented, according to order, a bill, "to repeal the act to suppress excessive gaming;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill, "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of this State on continental establishment;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said

bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A bill, "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 15, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the delegates of this State in Congress; which were read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Boone be added to the committee to whom the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Lincoln, Fayette and Jefferson, was referred.

A bill, "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers belonging to this State on continental establishment;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

Mr. Cabell reported, from the committee to whom the accounts of the honorable Meriwether Smith, Esq. whilst delegate from this State to Congress, were referred, that the committee had according to order, examined the same, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears that Meriwether Smith, Esq. on the 18th of December, 1799, settled an account at the auditor's office, on which he states a balance due to himself of 3,740*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, which sum it appears the said Meriwether Smith had advanced for his expenses whilst in the delegation, and that he obtained a warrant from the Auditor's on the Treasurer for the said sum of 3,740*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, without any allowance for depreciation or interest. It appears that the said Meriwether Smith, on the 29th of September, 1779, when about to leave the city of Philadelphia to return to this State, being in want of money to buy horses, and defray his travelling expenses, took up from the Virginia delegates then at Philadelphia, the sum of 28,225 2-3 paper dollars; and that it was left to his option either to settle the said money with the treasurer of this State, or with the said delegates, as might be most agreeable to himself.

It farther appears, that the said Meriwether Smith meant and intended to remit the said 28,225 2-3 dollars to the delegates from this State to Congress, but being prevented from several circumstances to make such remittance, he on the 4th of September, 1780, when about to return to Congress, made himself debtor in account with the Auditors for the said 28,225 2-3 paper dollars, and all interest and depreciation on the said money whilst in hands, and agreed to credit the State for the same as so much advanced him on account, to bear his expenses on the new delegation.

It appears that the said 28,225 2-3 paper dollars, at the time the said Meriwether Smith received the same, were of the value of 352*l.* 16*s.* 5*d.* Virginia currency in specie, calculated by a scale of depreciation adopted by the legislature of Pennsylvania; and that the interest thereon, during the time the said money was in his hands, viz: from September the 29th, 1779, to November the 1st, 1780, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, amounts to 22*l.* 18*s.* 7 1-4*d.*, which sums, principal and interest, being 375*l.* 15*s.* 0 1-4*d.* in specie, the said Meriwether Smith places in account to the credit of the State, as so much advanced him to pay his expenses in the new delegation, and for which sum he is accountable.

Your committee having carefully adverted to all the circumstances above-stated, and having examined the accounts and original papers to them referred, are of opinion, that the said Meriwether Smith's conduct throughout the whole transaction has been fair and open, and that no intention has been manifested to injure the public in any manner whatever.

*Resolved therefore, as the opinion of this committee*, That the sum of twenty-eight thousand two hundred and twenty-five and two thirds paper dollars, and the interest thereon from the twenty-ninth of September one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, to the first of November one thousand seven hundred and eighty, ought to be reduced to specie, and charged to the said Meriwether Smith, Esq. valued three hundred and seventy-five pounds fifteen shillings and one farthing in specie, as so much advanced him, and to be deducted from any charge he may have against this Commonwealth, for his services whilst a delegate to Congress, since the first day of November one thousand seven hundred and eighty.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Sütl and Bowdoin, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Cabell reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of the churchwardens and vestry of the parish of Antryp, in the county of Halifax,

to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such parts of the said petition, as pray that the vestry of the said parish of Antrim, in the county of Halifax, may be dissolved, and a new vestry chosen; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the glebe belonging to the said parish of Antrim, may be rented out or sold, ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

The first resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second resolution was read the second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee for Religion, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the justices of James City county, to hold their courts at any other place than Williamsburg, during the continuance of the smallpox there;" and that Messrs. Travis and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Duncan Rose, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the month of January, 1780, the petitioner advanced to Mr. Benjamin Day, agent for this State, a considerable sum of money for public use; that part of the said sum he borrowed of Mr. Samuel Beal, amounting to 3,000*L.*, which would at that time have purchased ten hogsheads of tobacco; that on the 30th of December following, he settled the said Beal's account, with his agent Mr. James Campbell; and that he lost by the depreciation of our money from the time of the loan until the settlement, 5,800 pounds of tobacco.

It farther appears to your committee, from a certificate of the auditors of public accounts, dated the 12th day of February in the present year, that there is due to the petitioner 5,230 pounds of tobacco, for nine months services as a member of the Board of Trade.

It farther appears to your committee, from a certificate of William Armistead, commissary of stores for this State, that there is due to the petitioner 3,345 pounds of tobacco, which he advanced for public use; 2,225 pounds, part thereof, he advanced in the year 1778, and the remainder in the year 1780, to comply with contracts entered into with Savage and Westman, and North and Company.

It farther appears to your committee, from a certificate of the auditors of public accounts, dated the 10th of February, 1781, that there is due to the petitioner, as agent for procuring clothing for the army, 180,690 pounds of tobacco.

It farther appears to your committee, that the petitioner has at sundry times, received from the public 57,240 pounds of tobacco, which leaves a balance due to him of 137,825 pounds of tobacco, besides 7,924 pounds of tobacco for interest, to the 30th of November last.

Whereupon, your committee, came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Duncan Rose, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid by the public, one hundred and forty-five thousand seven hundred and forty-nine pounds of tobacco.

*Resolved,* That so much of the aforesaid tobacco as respects the trading department, ought to be paid to the petitioner by the agent of that department, as soon as the circumstances thereof will admit, with interest until paid.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate impressments and seizures of property, and directing a mode for procuring wagons and other necessities for public service;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Zachariah Johnson, Arthur Lee, Meriwether Smith, and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of the Justices of Chesterfield county court, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that their courthouse and prisons, were some time since taken by order of the Executive, and converted into store-houses for public use; that being so applied, they were burnt by the enemy; and praying to be enabled to rebuild the same at public expense.

Also, a petition of John Vaughan; setting forth, that being detached on command with a party of British prisoners, he drew two thousand pounds for their support, which was so expended, that he lost the vouchers for the application thereof, and has been obliged to repay the same into the public treasury; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Christian Holmer; setting forth, that he is disabled from serving in his commission as major in Colonel Harrison's regiment of artillery, through an accident which has happened to him in the service; and praying that provision for life may be made for him at public expense; and that the usual bounties of lands, and other emoluments to disabled officers, may be allowed him.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:



Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for the defence of the western frontier, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Banister do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of Nathaniel Wilkins, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that, by the loss of his right hand at the battle of Waxsaws, he is disabled from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Achen; setting forth, that he advanced to Oliver Pollock, agent for this State, 2,162 specie dollars, for the use of the western department, and took a bill of exchange on the treasurer for the same, which he cannot obtain payment for; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Williams; setting forth, that through a course of military service in the last and present war, he is incapacitated from labor; blind and destitute; and praying relief.

Ordered, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and alter the terms of holding the same;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to.

Ordered, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for restoring to Robert Baine his former estate;" also, to the bill "for dividing the county of Bedford;" with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for paying the expenses of the officers appointed on behalf of the officers of the Virginia line, to attend the Assembly on the subject of their memorial. And then he withdrew.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; being read,

Ordered, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 17, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, respecting the trial of certain tory criminals, now in the public jail; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting a judgment on behalf of the public, against John Poage, late sheriff of Augusta; also, to the resolution of thanks to Mr. Jefferson, late Governor of this State, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and to alter the terms of holding the same;" was read the third time.

Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and to alter the terms of holding the same."

Ordered, That Mr. Strother do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

His Excellency General Washington, in his command of the Allied army at York, having given fresh proofs of his courage, good conduct, and indefatigable zeal for the public service, in which he hath so gloriously persevered during the whole course of the war; and the decisive and complete success of the allied arms over the enemy, commanded by Earl Cornwallis, is an event so interesting to America, and productive of signal good to this Commonwealth;

Resolved therefore, unanimously, That the thanks of this House be presented to his Excellency for his late glorious services at Yorktown; and that he be assured the conspicuous merit and exalted virtue, which his character uniformly exhibits, will ever excite the warmest love and gratitude of his countrymen.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Their Excellencies the Counts de Rochambeau and de Grass, with the officers and troops under their command, composing the army and navy of our great and illustrious Ally, his Most Christian Majesty, having distinguished them-

selves in the late operations against the common enemy at and near York, by a noble display of gallantry, discipline, and a zealous, active and vigorous co-operation with the troops of these United States; and having thereby so eminently contributed to the late glorious success of the Allied arms, and to the deliverance of this State from the ravages of a powerful and cruel enemy;

*Resolved, unanimously,* That the thanks of this House be presented to their said Excellencies, and to the officers and men, composing the whole suite of each of them, respectively; and that they be assured of the lasting esteem and gratitude of Virginia to them, and to their nation, which stands so eminently distinguished, for its courage, generosity, and noble achievements.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

The House of Delegates of Virginia, on behalf of their constituents, who are deeply impressed with a due sense of the many great and important services rendered to their Commonwealth in particular, and through that, as a member of the American Union to the United States in general, by the Hon. Major General Marquis de La Fayette;

*Do resolve,* To bear to the world this highest testimony of their gratitude, to the said Honorable Major General Marquis de La Fayette, for his distinguished good conduct and eminent services, while commanding the American army in this State; that this House regard with the warmest approbation his patriotic attention, and generous endeavors to preserve the civil rights of the citizens, and to promote the general interests of the State, equally conspicuous with his great and gallant exertions in the field: And therefore do, unanimously, present to the said Honorable Major General Marquis de La Fayette, this just tribute of applause, in the grateful thanks of the free representatives of a free people.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, unanimously,* That a bust of the Marquis de La Fayette, be directed to be made in Paris, of the best marble employed for such purposes, and presented to the Marquis, with the following inscription on it:

"This bust was voted on the 17th day of December, 1781, by the General Assembly of the State of Virginia, to the Honorable the Marquis de La Fayette, Major General in the service of the United States of America, and late commander in chief of the army of the United States in Virginia, as a lasting monument of his merit, and of their gratitude."

*Resolved,* That the commercial agent, be directed to employ a proper person in Paris, to make the above bust.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to proceed by joint ballot with this House, on Wednesday next, to the choice of a treasurer, for the ensuing year; also, they have agreed to the bill "for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of records of county courts;" to the bill "to secure to the persons who derive titles to lots, lands or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust of the late William Bird, Esq. a fee simple estate therein;" and to the bill, "to suspend the operation of the act 'to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes.'" And then he withdrew.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Henry M'Abe, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is presumptive heir to an estate which consists in part of lots and lands that are unprofitable and expensive; and praying that he may be authorised to dispose of part of the said estate for the benefit of the rest, saving to the heir at law, his right in future.

Also, a petition of sundry merchants and inhabitants of the town of Manchester; setting forth, that the warehouses in the said town, were burnt down by the enemy; and praying that the said warehouses may be re-established, and the inspection of tobacco revived thereat.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the commissioners of the money tax in the county of Louisa, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they collected the tax in the said county, and paid the same into the public treasury, part of which, hath been returned upon them as counterfeit; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Alexander Kilpatrick; setting forth, that he was appointed jailer of the county of Augusta in the year 1779, and continued until the month of November last, during which time he hath sustained great loss by the insufficiency of the fees to the support of the prisoners; and praying relief.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, a petition and memorial to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House. as followeth:

*Resolved,* that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers merchants, traders and inhabitants,

of the town of Richmond, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established near Rockett's landing on James river; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the memorial of sundry persons in opposition thereto, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom it was referred to bring in a bill "to revive and amend the several acts 'for the inspection of tobacco,'" do receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the first resolution.

A bill, "for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee appointed to devise ways and means for raising money to defray the exigencies of the ensuing year; that the committee had, according to order, proceeded therein, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately;

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the said report and resolutions and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said report and resolutions under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the said report and resolutions, together with the amendments, were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved,* That a tax of one per centum ad valorem be paid for all lands.

*Resolved,* That a tax of twelve shillings and six pence be laid on every free man above the age of twenty-one years, and on every slave; the one half commutable for hemp or tobacco, and the other half for hemp, tobacco or flour.

*Resolved,* That a tax of two shillings be paid for every horse, mare, colt and mule.

*Resolved,* That a tax of three pence per head be paid for nett cattle.

*Resolved,* That a tax of five shillings per wheel be paid for riding carriages.

*Resolved,* That a tax of fifty pounds per annum be paid for each billiard table.

*Resolved,* That a tax of five shillings be paid for every hundred acres of land exceeding 1,400 acres, contained in any patent hereafter to be granted, except in cases of land allowed to officers as bounty.

*Resolved,* That a tax of five pounds be paid annually for each ordinary licence.

*Resolved,* That a duty of one shilling and three pence per ton be paid on all vessels, at entrance or clearance, from or to foreign parts.

*Resolved,* That a duty of four pence per gallon be paid on all imported spirits and wine.

*Resolved,* That a duty of four shillings and two pence per hundred pounds be paid on all sugar, and one penny per pound on coffee.

*Resolved,* That a duty of one per centum ad valorem be paid on the amount per invoice of all other merchandise imported into this Commonwealth.

*Resolved,* That the said duties be continued for and during the term of \_\_\_\_\_ years.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Mann Page, Jefferson, Banister, Arthur Lee, Meriwether Smith, Zachariah Johnson, Henry, John Page, and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bill "to repeal the act 'to suppress excessive gaming,'" being read,

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, December 18, 1781.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Browder, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from a certificate under the hand of Colonel Edward Carrington, that in the month of January last, when General Arnold was expected at Petersburg, the petitioner voluntarily offered to furnish, and actually did furnish, several carts for the purpose of removing the public stores, then in the said town of Petersburg, without pay or reward.

It farther appears to your committee, from the deposition of Duncan Rose, that one of the said carts, loaded with public stores, was overtaken by a party of the enemy's light horse, and that they took thereout a likely mare, the property of the petitioner, of the value of 40*l.* specie.



Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said William Browder, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid the sum of forty pounds specie, the value of his said mare.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Thomas Smith reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several enrolled bills to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the said enrolled bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the auditors of public accounts be directed to adjust the account of Major Crittendon's expenses, in specie; and that the treasurer do borrow a sum in specie sufficient to pay the same.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Hunter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Strother presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed, that Mr. Thomas Moore, one of the members for the county of Middlesex, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said Thomas Moore be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill, "for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying the claim of Duncan Rose, in tobacco; and for making a certain allowance to John Kinkeade. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That the committee of Trade be discharged from proceeding on the petitions of Daniel Clarke and Thomas Achen; and also, the petition of the said Daniel Clarke as agent for Oliver Pollock to them referred; and that the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, sundry petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the service of this State, and was marched to join the southern army; that he was in the action at Camden where he had the misfortune to receive a wound in his arm, which has occasioned his discharge from the service and rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief; and the farther allowance of half pay, during life, to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Morgan, setting forth, that he was in Colonel Buford's defeat to the southward, and at that time had the misfortune to receive several wounds in his head, and to lose three of his fingers from his right hand, whereby he is rendered unable to support himself by labor; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed six months pay for his present relief, with the farther allowance of half pay during life; and that he ought to be furnished by the commissary of stores, with a blanket and a suit of clothes, to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John McKinney, setting forth, that in the year 1774, he had the misfortune to receive several wounds in the service of his country; that in consequence thereof, the Assembly allowed him the sum of 10*l.* per annum, during life; that by reason of the unexpected depreciation of money, the said annuity is become quite inadequate to the purpose for which it was granted him, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of ten pounds specie per annum, during life, to be discharged in current money, at such difference of exchange as may be settled by the grand jury, next preceding the time of receiving the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John King, setting forth, that he was in Col. Buford's defeat to the southward, and at that time had the misfortune to lose both his arms, which has rendered him entirely unable to support himself, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed two year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life, to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Cunningham, setting forth, that he was marched as a militia man from the county of Augusta, to join the southern army; that he was in the action at Guilford, where he had the misfortune to be wounded in both his thighs, which has rendered him a cripple, and unable to support himself by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Anne Thomson, praying that compensation may be made her by the public for five months board, and attendance on George Harrison, a soldier belonging

to General Wayne's brigade, who came to her house in the month of June last, with a very sore leg, and remained with her during the said term; and that she may be reimbursed two hundred and ten dollars, which she expended for medicines for the said soldier, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Nathaniel Wilkins, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, for his present relief; and also, a farther allowance for his future support, in consideration of the loss of his right hand, at the battle of the Waxsaws, while a soldier in the continental service, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Abraham Nettles, late a serjeant in the continental service, who, through the effects of some violent disorder, lost the use of his lower limbs whilst in the said service, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay, during life; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Williams, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, in consideration of the loss of his eye sight, whilst a soldier in the service of this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed six months pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Elisha Williams, praying to be paid by the public for a horse which was shot by a sentinel belonging to General Nelson's brigade of militia on the night of the 29th day of April last, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th resolutions; and that Messrs. Richard Lee, Jefferson and Henry, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to continue and amend the act, 'for appointing naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" and that Messrs. Richard Lee and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed unanimously to the resolution for presenting the Marquis La Fayette with a marble bust; also, they have agreed to the resolution respecting Major Crittendon's expenses. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Meriwether Smith reported, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry persons in the counties of Jefferson, Fayette and Lincoln, setting forth, that from the present plan of administering the government, they are deprived of the benefits arising from the same; and praying that regulations may be made for their relief; that the committee had, according to order, had the said petition under their consideration, and had agreed to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved,* That the said petition is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill or bills, "for the better administration of government in the western county;" and that Messrs. Meriwether Smith, Henry, Jefferson, Arthur Lee, Strother, Greene, Thomas Moore, Boone, Swearingham and Banister, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Travis presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the justices of James City county, to hold courts at any other place than Williamsburg, during the continuance of the smallpox there;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That Captain John Rogers, and the officers and light dragoons of his corps, shall be entitled to their due proportion of the lands allowed and granted to the officers and soldiers of the regiment commanded by Colonel George Rogers Clarke.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Banister do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Robert Brooke, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he entered a volunteer in a corps of horse, during the last invasion, and found his own horse and accoutrements; that he was taken prisoner by the enemy, together with his horse and accoutrements, which they kept; and praying to be paid for the same.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of New Kent, whose names are therein subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the warehouses at the Brickhouses and Littlepage's, in the said county, were burnt by the enemy during the late invasion; and praying that an inspection of tobacco, may be established at Waddy's, in the said county.

Also, a petition of Edward Haskins and Vincent Markham; setting forth, that as sheriffs of Powhatan county,



they proceeded to collect the taxes due therein, and the said Vincent Markham attended the auditors to settle for the same; that the said auditors not having time to settle the accounts, and the said Vincent being taken with the small-pox, a judgment is gone against them in the General Court for the amount of the said taxes with interest and damages; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of Thomas Smith, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed by the Governor and Council in the year 1779, to settle the account of this State against the United States; that he has been employed therein since that time, and has brought the same up to the end of the year 1780; that he has never received any compensation for his services; and praying such allowance for his past and future services, as shall be thought just.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to Messrs. Mann Page, Carter, Innes, Richard Lee, Dulaney and Richeson; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of Lieutenant Colonel Edward Carrington, deputy quarter-master general for the southern army, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is destitute of wagons to move on levies for the southern army, or to procure provisions for the same; that he is also in want of two hundred draft horses for the use of the said army; and praying that legislative provision may be made to procure the same.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill, "to regulate impresses."

The House, proceeded to nominate a person proper to be balloted for, as treasurer of this Commonwealth, for the ensuing year.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the State agent be directed to furnish each of the door-keepers of the Senate, and of the House of Delegates, with a full suit of clothes.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the act to amend 'an act, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for other purposes,'" and that Messrs. Peyton, and Mann Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming,'" and "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers belonging to this State on continental establishment," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 19, 1781.

A bill, "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly respecting the inspection of tobacco;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-day.

A bill, "to empower the justices of James City, to hold courts at any other place than Williamsburg, during the continuance of the smallpox there;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Jefferson presented, according to order, a bill, "for the relief of military pensioners;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter reported, according to the order of the day, the amendments made by the committee of the whole House yesterday, to the bill, "for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and disagreed to, by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.



A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate are satisfied with the nomination of George Brooke, Esq. to be treasurer of this Commonwealth for the ensuing year, and are willing that he be appointed without the formality of a ballot. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That George Brooke, Esq. be appointed treasurer of this Commonwealth, for the ensuing year.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *Col. 49.*

Mr. Richard Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the 'act, for farther continuing and amending an act, for appointing naval officers and ascertaining their fees;'" and the same was received and read the first time. and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive do cause to be purchased at the public expense, and presented to the Honorable Major General Nathaniel Greene, two elegant geldings, as a small token of the high sense the General Assembly of Virginia entertain of the important services he hath rendered to this State in particular, and the United States in general.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, *namine contra dicente*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the letter of Col. George Mathews to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That at the appointment of the six additional battalions in 1776, when the officers were to take rank from the time of their appointment, no neglect was intended to the officers of the nine battalions before directed to be raised, who were not to take rank until called into actual service; but that this Assembly being incompetent to the settlement of rank between their officers, the same ought to be referred to a board of general officers.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the commercial agent ought to furnish the officers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, who from captivity or otherwise have not drawn the clothing allowed by law, with such clothing and at the same price other officers of the said line were charged.

The first resolution was read a second time; and on the question being put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second resolution was read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the first resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for paying a sum of money to William Browder, and for furnishing each of the door-keepers of this House, and of the Senate, with a suit of clothes. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution of thanks to Thomas Jefferson, Esq. late Governor of this Commonwealth; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, sundry petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of King George and Westmoreland, praying that the inspection of tobacco at Machodack warehouse, may be revived and established; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Richmond, praying that the inspection of tobacco at Glascock's warehouse, may be revived and established; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Surry, praying that the inspection of tobacco at Cabin Point, may be discontinued, and one established at Low Point, commonly called Guilford, on the land of Archibald Dunlap, in the said county of Surry; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Henry McCabe, presumptive heir and administrator of the estate of his father Henry McCabe, deceased; praying that an act may pass, empowering him to dispose of a certain tract of land, adjoining to the town of Leesburg, containing about 150 acres, and unimproved lots in the said town, to enable him to pay the debts of his said father; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That the first, second and third resolutions, be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco."

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the last resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution appointing George Brooke, Esq. treasurer of this Commonwealth. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to amend 'an act, for farther continuing and amending 'an act, for appointing naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Trade.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for adjusting claims for property impressed, or taken for public service;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Jefferson made his resignation to the House, of his appointment to be a delegate to represent this State in Congress; which was accepted.

Mr. Peyton presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "for dividing the Commonwealth into districts, and establishing a subordinate executive for the western district;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing Supreme Courts in the western district;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of this State on continental establishment;" and "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes," being read;

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 20, 1781.

An engrossed bill, "for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" was read the third time.

Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service."

Ordered, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder, "to prevent any thing in the said bill contained from affecting the causes of tenders for debts actually and legally made;" and the said engrossed clause being severally read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder.

Resolved, That the bill, with its ryder, do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State."

Ordered, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the justices of James City county to hold courts at any other place than Williamsburg, during the continuance of the smallpox there;" was read the third time.

Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to empower the justices of James City county to hold courts at any other place within the same, during the continuance of the smallpox there."

Ordered, That Mr. Travis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for presenting Major General Greene with two geldings, with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "giving powers to the Governor, with the advice of Council, to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders;" and that Mr. Mann Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the President of Congress, which were read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Field have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Winslow, for the remainder of the session.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Francis Lightfoot Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for reserving to Rogers's corps their share of the land granted to Clarke's regiment. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the resolution for presenting Major General Greene with two geldings. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendment; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth insist on their disagreement thereto.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes;" and that Messrs. Meriwether Smith, Ronald, Johnson and Hunter, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "for the relief of military pensioners;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Jefferson, Henry, and Arthur Lee.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act to amend the act 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for other purposes;'" was read the second time, and the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "for dividing the Commonwealth into districts, and for establishing a subordinate executive for the western district;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the second Monday in May next.

A bill, "for establishing Supreme Courts in the western district;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the second Monday in May next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, divers petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Trabue, setting forth, that he was a purchasing commissary for the public, in the county of Kentucky in the year 1780, and in the month of June of that year was taken prisoner by a party of British and Indians, together with his papers. That the people of whom he purchased will be great sufferers in their claims, unless allowed the depreciation upon the certificates given by him since his releasement from captivity; and praying that such depreciation may be allowed on all such claims, is reasonable; and that the Governor with the advice of Council, ought to appoint commissioners to adjust and settle the said claims against the public, and make report of their proceedings thereupon to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Branch, praying to be paid by the public for a valuable gelding, which he rode as a volunteer light horseman during the last Summer, and was so disabled in a skirmish with the enemy as to be rendered unfit for service, ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John McMillian, praying to be paid by the public for three wagon horses, which were impressed for the purpose of transporting the baggage of a party of militia, drafted in the county of Prince William to join the northern army in the year 1777, and have never been returned to him; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Samuel Venable and Richmond Smith, setting forth, that at the particular recommendation of General Greene, Captain Thomas Watkins, of Prince Edward county, raised a volunteer corps of light horse; which corps they entered into and joined the southern army; that they were ordered by Colonel Washington upon a reconnoitering party, and were taken by the enemy, with their horses; and praying to be paid for the said horses, agreeable to their respective valuations, ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Gilliam, praying to be paid by the public for two mares which were impressed in the year 1780, by a certain Joseph Brock, then an ensign belonging to the 2d regiment of this State's militia, for the use of the southern army; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Robert Brooke, praying to be paid by the public for a valuable gelding, which he rode as a volunteer light horseman during the last Summer, and was taken by the enemy, whilst on a reconnoitering party; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Lemuel Godwin, administrator of Thomas Fisher, deceased; setting forth, that during the last Summer the said Fisher joined a party of volunteer light horsemen, raised in the county of Chesterfield, to oppose the common enemy; that in a charge made upon a party of the enemy's light horse he was killed, and his horse taken; and praying that compensation may be made the heir of the said



Thomas Fisher, deceased, for the said horse; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Johnson, Garrett Minor and Richard Johnson, commissioners of the tax for the county of Louisa, setting forth, that they collected the tax in the said county, imposed by an act of Assembly, "for recruiting this State's quota of troops, to serve in the continental army," and paid the same into the public treasury, part of which hath since been returned upon them as counterfeit; that no provision is made by the said act for their trouble and risk in receiving and paying away the said tax, and praying relief; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Newton and Presoin Bowdoin, executors of Robert Tucker, jun. deceased, praying that compensation may be made by the public for damages done to the testator's plantation, generally known by the name of Tucker's Mill Point, which was taken in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six, as a proper place to erect fortifications, and which hath ever since that period been retained by the public as a garrison for their troops, is reasonable; and that the court of Norfolk county do ascertain such damages, and make report thereof to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Smith, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound which he received in one of his thighs at the battle of Guilford courthouse, whilst a soldier in the continental service, is reasonable; and that the same allowances ought to be made the petitioner as have been made to other wounded soldiers in similar circumstances.

The first, eighth and ninth resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and tenth resolutions, were severally read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the first and ninth resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Strother presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a new ferry;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate impressments and seizures of property, and directing a mode of procuring wagons and other necessities for public service;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the Governor and Council to equip a naval force;" and that Messrs. John Page, Travis, Jefferson, Innes and Newton, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming,'" "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of this State, on continental establishment;" and "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 21, 1781.

A bill, "to regulate impressments and seizures of property, and directing a mode of procuring wagons and other necessities for public service;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the first of March next.

A bill, "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. John Page presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the Executive to fit out a certain naval force;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for establishing a new ferry;" was read the second time, amended and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "giving powers to the Governor, with advice of Council, to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Mayo presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Antrim, in the county of Halifax;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on the second Monday in May next.

Mr. Carter reported, from the committee to whom the memorial of Mr. Thomas Smith, the agent appointed to settle the accounts of the Commonwealth with the United States, was referred, that the committee had, according to

order, had the said memorial under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table; where the same were again read, and are as followeth :

It appears to the committee, that Mr. Smith was appointed agent in January, 1760; that he has been at considerable expense and trouble in settling the said accounts; and agreeable to a resolution of Assembly, has employed a clerk, and as yet has received no satisfaction for the same.

*Resolved, therefore,* That the sum of                    pounds specie, or the value thereof in tobacco, be paid to the said Thomas Smith, Esq. for his services; also, that the sum of                    pounds specie, or the value thereof in tobacco, be paid to his clerk; and that the treasurer be directed to pay the said sums to the said Smith and his clerk, as soon as the circumstances of the treasury will admit.

*Ordered,* That the said report and resolution be recommitted to the same committee.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey :

4 Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House to the resolution for presenting Major General Greene with two geldings. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Mayo reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an act may pass for the dissolution of all vestries throughout this State, and that other vestries may be re-elected upon principles more consistent with the present constitution; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for further continuing the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Henry, James Wells, and Jefferson, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of this State, on continental establishment;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the said report be received to-morrow.

A bill, "giving powers to the Governor, with advice of Council, to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to empower the Executive to fit out a certain naval force;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That a committee be appointed to confer with the auditors on the state of the business of their office.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Ronald, Banister, Johnson, Walker and Breckenridge.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" "directing the mode of settling and adjusting the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" and "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, December 22, 1781.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, necessary absence in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, do take into his custody Mr. George Stewart, a member for the county of Accomack; Mr. James Marks, a member for the county of Albemarle; Mr. John Pride, a member for the county of Amelia; Mr. Samuel Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Mr. Joseph Peebles, a member for the county of Brunswick; Mr. Newman Brockenbrough, a member for the county of Essex; Mr. Archer Matthews, a member for the county of Greenbrier; Messrs. Edmund Wilkins and John Turner, members for the county of Greenville; Mr. Joseph Prentis, a member for the county of James City; Mr. Isaac Cocks, a member for the county of Jefferson; Mr. Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; Mr. Holt Richeson, a member for the county of King William; Messrs. John Taylor and Robert Clarke Jacobs, members for the county of Lancaster; Mr. Nicholas Hopson, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Messrs. Benjamin Logan and John Edwards, members for the county of Lincoln; Messrs. James Montague and Thomas Moore, members for the county of Middlesex; Mr. Michael Christian, a member for the county of Northampton; Messrs. John Gordon and John Hull, members for the county of Northumberland; Mr. Haynes Morgan, a member for the county of Pittsylvania; Mr. Joseph Moore, a member for the county of Prince Edward; Mr. William Smith, a member for the county of Richmond; Mr. Edwin Young, a member for the county of Shenandoah; Messrs. James Kee and William Hart, members for the county of Surry; Mr. Gray Judkins, a member for the county of Sussex; Mr. Edward Harwood, a member for the county of Warwick; Messrs. James Innes and Samuel Irwin, members for the county of Yohogania; and Mr. William Reynold, a member for the county of York.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That during the continuance of the present session of Assembly, sixty members be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

An engrossed bill, "giving powers to the Governor, with the advice of Council, to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act giving powers to the Governor, with the advice of Council, to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the Executive to fit out a certain naval force," was read the third time, and the blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to empower the Executive to fit out a certain naval force."

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of the Commonwealth, stating his desire to be heard in such manner as the House shall be pleased to direct, respecting such part of his conduct while Governor, as hath been arraigned in a memorial from the county of Prince William; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth, together with the memorial and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince William, and the letter of Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of the Commonwealth, to them referred, under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, *nemine contra dicente*.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House being informed, that Mr. Thomas Moore, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; and Mr. Holt Richeson, one of the members for the county of King William, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Moore and Holt Richeson, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

Mr. Jefferson reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for the relief of military pensioners" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Mountjoy and Richeson have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government;" and that Messrs. John Page, Ronald, and Arthur Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the rank of certain continental officers; also, to the bill "to empower the justices of James City county, to hold their courts at any other place within the same than Williamsburg, during the continuance of the smallpox there." And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That James Cunningham, a militia man from the county of Augusta, who was wounded in both thighs



in the action of Guilford, and is thereby rendered unable to procure his living, ought to be allowed by the auditors one year's pay in specie for his present relief, and half pay during life; to be charged to the continent.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Banister reported, according to order, the amendments agreed to yesterday, by the committee of the whole House, to the bill "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers belonging to this State, on continental establishment;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill "for establishing a new ferry," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a new ferry."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to amend the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to repeal the act 'to suppress excessive gaming,'" "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly respecting the inspection of tobacco;" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 24, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Nicholas Hopson, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last,

*Ordered*, That the said Nicholas Hopson, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for the relief of military pensioners," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for the relief of military pensioners."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to vest certain lands, whereof Burgess Ball is seized, as tenant for life in trustees, and for other purposes;" and that Messrs. Mann Page, Peyton and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Strother presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to enable Henry McCabe to sell certain lands;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Miles Selden, jun. Thomas Prosser, James Buckanan, James Lyle, James Buckanan for Thompson Mason, Richard Adams and George Nicholas, to them referred; and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the depositions of James Anderson, William Armistead, John McKeand and William Hay, that some time in the month of January last past, when General Arnold came to this place, at the head of a party of British troops, the public were in possession of sundry houses, the property of the petitioners; one of which houses, the property of the petitioner Miles Selden, jun., was appropriated by the public to the use of the commissary of stores. Three other of the said houses, the property of the petitioners Thomas Prosser, James Lyle, and Richard Adams, were taken for the quarter-master's departments, and contained public stores of different kinds; and three other of the said houses, the property of the petitioners James Buckanan, Thompson Mason, and George Nicholas, were taken and used as public workshops; and that in consequence of the said houses containing public stores, and being appropriated to public use, they were destroyed by the enemy.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said petition is reasonable; and that the court of Henrico county do ascertain the value of the said houses, and return the same, together with the proofs relative thereto, to the next General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to vest certain lands, whereof Burgess Ball is seized, as tenant for life in trustees, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to compel the delinquent counties, to make up their deficiencies of clothing, wagons and horses, and to prevent the unjust impressment and seizure of property, and to punish persons guilty of the same;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Arthur Lee, Johnson, and Samuel Goode, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Arthur Lee reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter reported, from the committee to whom the report on the memorial of Thomas Smith was recommit- ted, that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and agreed to a re- port, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's ta- ble, where the same were again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House proceeded to consider several resolutions, reported from the committee of Trade; and the said re- solutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Moore, setting forth, that he march- ed as a militia man from the county of Washington, under the command of Col. William Campbell to the southward; that he was in the attack made upon a party of the British troops at King's mountain, and during the action, had the misfortune to lose his right leg, and to receive a wound in his left arm; which has rendered him unable to support himself and family by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed two year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life, to be charged to the continent in ac- count with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Alexander Martin, setting forth, that he was marched as a militia man from the county of Augusta, to join the southern army; that he was in the action at Guil- ford, and had the misfortune to receive a wound in his hip, which has rendered him unable to support himself by la- bor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed two year's pay for his present re- lief, and full pay for two years to come; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Cusick, setting forth, that he march- ed as a militia man from the county of Washington, under the command of Col. William Campbell, to join the southern army; that during his march, he was accidentally wounded in one of his thighs, which has rendered him unable to support himself and family by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed two year's pay, for his present relief; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Frederick Fisher, setting forth, that he marched as a militia man from the county of Washington, under the command of Col. William Campbell to the south- ward; that he was in the attack made upon a party of British troops posted at King's mountain, and during the action had the misfortune to receive a wound, which has rendered him unable to support himself by labor, and pray- ing relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay for the term of three years; to be charged to the continent in account with this Common- wealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers belonging to this State on continental establishment;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause, was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder, "that all tobacco arising from the sale of confiscated estates, be appropriated to the payment and redemption of the certificates, to be granted to the officers and soldiers;" and the said engrossed clause being severally read three times was, on the question put there- upon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the bill, with the ryder, do pass; and that the title be, "an act, 'to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment; and also, of the officers, soldiers, sailors and marines in the service of this State, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Banister do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Aaron Lewis, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Richard Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for ascertaining the damage done to the property

of Robert Tucker, deceased; also, they have agreed to the bill "for calling in, and funding the paper money of this State," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House;

And to the bill, "for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;'" "directing the mode of adjusting and settling certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 25, 1781.

A bill, "to vest certain lands whereof Burgess Ball is seized as tenant for life, in trustees, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to enable Henry McCabe to dispose of certain lands;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the said bill, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

An engrossed bill, "to vest certain lands whereof Burgess Ball is seized as tenant for life, in trustees, and for other purposes;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, 'to vest certain lands whereof Burgess Ball is seized as tenant for life, in trustees, and for other purposes;'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Daniel Clarke to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the said Daniel Clarke, praying that the conditional acceptance by David Ross, Esq. commercial agent of a bill of exchange, drawn by Oliver Pollock, Esq. at New Orleans in favor of the memorialist, may be done away; and that the acceptance should be made absolute and unconditional, for so much as shall be due, to be paid to the said memorialist, with interest thereon, whenever the finances of the State will afford it, is reasonable; and that the said David Ross do state the claim of the said Clarke, and return the same to the present session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House being informed that Mr. John Hull, one of the members for the county of Northumberland, attending in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Hull, be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The House proceeded to consider the report and resolution on the memorial of Thomas Smith, which lay on the table; and the same being read and amended were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Your committee find, that the said Thomas Smith, received two thousand paper dollars on the eighth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and eighty, which he applied principally to the purchasing of necessaries for his office, also, some rations from the commissaries: which said sum of two thousand paper dollars, being of the value of ten pounds specie, the committee are of opinion ought to be deducted out of the first payment to be made the said Smith; and that the auditors ought to estimate the value of such rations, and deduct the same also.

*Resolved*, therefore, That the said Thomas Smith, ought to be paid the sum of three hundred pounds specie,



per annum, or the value thereof in tobacco, for his services, deducting therefrom the two thousand paper dollars, or ten pounds specie, and the value of such rations; also, that his clerk ought to be paid the sum of one hundred pounds specie per annum, or the value thereof in tobacco; and that the treasurer be directed to pay the said sums to the said Thomas Smith and his clerk, as soon as the circumstances of the treasury will admit.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to enable Henry McCabe to dispose of certain lands," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to enable Henry McCabe, to dispose of certain lands."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act 'to suppress excessive gaming;' and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 26, 1761.

An engrossed bill, "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly respecting the inspection of tobacco, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause, was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of rider, "to empower the county courts to establish a mode for adjusting debts and contracts in particular cases;" and the said engrossed clause was read three times, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the bill, with the rider, do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. John Page presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee to whom the memorial of Col. Edward Carrington was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, as the opinion of this committee*, That one hundred horses may be procured by immediately compelling the delinquent counties to make up the wagons and teams required of them by "an act entitled 'an act for supplying the army with clothes, provisions and wagons;'" and that the said wagons and teams ought to be delivered as they are collected, to the deputy quartermaster in this State, or to such persons as he shall appoint to receive the same; and that the said wagons and teams ought to be valued in specie, when delivered to the said deputy quartermaster; and his receipt taken for the same at such valuations, and the amount thereof debited to the United States.

*Resolved, as the opinion of this committee*, That other one hundred horses may be obtained by empowering persons of credit in different parts of the country to procure them, and the persons appointed for that purpose to have power and authority to give receipts for such horses at the value agreed on in specie, expressing that such receipts shall be taken by any sheriff or collector for taxes on lands or slaves, or any other tax that may be by law appropriated for continental purposes.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Ronald, Smith and Innes, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to legalize the measures taken by Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of this Commonwealth, for supplying the Allied army and militia, employed in the siege of York;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act 'to suppress excessive gaming;" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 27, 1781.

A bill, "to legalize the measures taken by Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of the Commonwealth, for supplying the Allied army and militia, employed in the siege of York;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee to whom the examination of the conduct of John Hopkins, commissioner of continental loans was referred; that the committee had, according to order, made inquiry into the same, and had agreed to a report and resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said John Hopkins, applied to May Burton, collector of the taxes for the county of Orange, offering to purchase of him a number of certificates, and pay him treasury warrants for them; but that the said Hopkins and Burton did not make any bargain respecting the same; nor does it appear, that the said Hopkins took any extraordinary methods to compel or induce the said Burton to dispose of those certificates, but only made him an offer to pay him in treasury warrants for the amount of the sums expressed in such certificates.

It appears to your committee, that the said John Hopkins had in his possession, from time to time, treasury warrants to a considerable amount, which were the property of his friends and acquaintance in different parts of the country, and sent to him for the purpose of receiving payment.

It appears to your committee, that Robert Wormely Carter, Esq. presented to the said Hopkins, two Loan Office certificates, valued four hundred dollars, and demanded payment of the interest thereon; and that the said Hopkins took the said certificates into his possession to calculate such interest, promising to pay the same; and that the said Hopkins after keeping the certificates some small time in his possession, returned them to the said Mr. Carter, informing him, that no interest was due; and the said certificates were endorsed interest paid, when returned to the said Mr. Carter, although there was not any such endorsement when they were delivered to the said Hopkins. This circumstance seeming to denote some ill intention, your committee have been particular in examining into the whole of the transaction, and find no entry was made of such interest being paid on Mr. Hopkins's books; and that from the manner in which the said Hopkins keeps his accounts, no charge for payment of such interest, can be brought against the United States: and that the said Hopkins's books appear to be fairly and regularly kept, as far as your committee have had an opportunity of examining the same.

*Resolved, therefore, as the opinion of your committee*, That the endorsement above referred to, was altogether a mistake; and that no stigma ought to be affixed to the said John Hopkins's character, on that account.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, to whom the bill to continue and amend the "act for appointing naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" was committed, that the committee had according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to regulate and affix the pay of the militia heretofore called into service;" and that Messrs. Strother and Innes, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the public printer do forthwith strike one hundred and fifty copies of the act, "for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" and also of the act, "for calling in and funding the paper money of this State."

A message from the Senate by Mr. Dixon:

**X** MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, "for establishing a new ferry;" also, to the bill, "to empower the Governor to fit out a certain naval force." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

**X** MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for the relief of military pensioners;" also, to the bill "to empower the Governor to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders." And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and

made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same;

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for making certain allowances to Frederick Fisher, John Cusick, Alexander Martin and William Moore, wounded soldiers; also, for paying a sum of money to Mann Page and Francis Triplett; and to the bill "to vest certain lands, whereof Burgess Ball is seized as tenant for life, in trustees, and for other purposes," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, proceeded to consider the resolutions reported from the committee of Trade, which lay on the table, for paying certain sums of money to Alexander Buntain, and John Caldwell; and the same being twice read, were on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Alexander Buntain, setting forth, that he was marched as a militia man from the county of Rockbridge, under the command of Col. McDowell, to join the southern army; that he was in the action of Guilford, where he had the misfortune to receive a wound in his knee, which has rendered him a cripple, and unable to support himself by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Caldwell, setting forth, that he was drafted among others from the militia of Rockbridge county, to join the southern army; that he was in the detachment commanded by General Morgan that defeated Col. Tarleton at the battle of the Cowpens, and during the action had the misfortune to receive a wound in his right arm, which has since deprived him of the use of it, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "concerning wagons and horses;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, until the first Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to nominate a person proper to be ballotted for as a delegate to represent this State in Congress, until the first Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the relief of persons who have had their property destroyed by the enemy, or who have had all or the greatest part of their grain impressed for the use of the army;" and that Messrs. Southall, John Page and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

An account of Messrs. Dunlap & Hayes, printers to the Commonwealth, for public services, was presented to the House, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 28, 1781.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Treasurer; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts; that the committee had, according to order, examined the same with their proper vouchers from the 23d October, 1780, to the 3d of November last, inclusive, and had agreed to a report, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

Your committee find, that the sum of 60,823,216*l.* 9*s.* 8 1-2*d.* has been received on sundry accounts, including a balance of 550,871*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.* in his hands on the settlement of his last account. Out of which the payments made by the treasurer amount to 57,545,649*l.* 13*s.* 6 1-4*d.*, which left a balance in his hands of 3,277,566*l.* 13*s.* 6 1-4*d.* which appears was on hand that day, as your committee have examined the payments and receipts of money since that time, and counted the cash on hand; that 150*l.* 18*s.* of which appears to be counterfeit, received as we presume through the hurry of business, which the treasurer requests may be allowed him. Your committee find that the accounts have been fairly and properly kept: but for a more clear explanation thereof, we beg leave to refer you to the statement annexed.



<i>The Treasury, in account with GEORGE BROOKE, Treasurer.</i>				<i>DR.</i>	
December 21, 1780,	To counterfeited money allowed per resolution of this State,	-	-	£	76 4 0
May 5, 1781,	To cash paid sundry persons,	-	Folio 182,	20,402,248	6 11
	To 1-8 per cent commission on the Loan Office, 1778 establishment,	-	198,	103	7 9
November 3,	To cash paid sundry persons per account,	-	205,	37,143,219	1 8 1-4
	To 1-8 per cent commission on the Loan Office, 1778 establishment,	-	263,	2	15 10
	Balance due,	-	265,	3,277,566	13 6 1-4
				£ 60,823,216	9 8 1-4

<i>The Treasury, in account with GEORGE BROOKE, Treasurer.</i>				<i>CR.</i>	
October 21, 1780,	By balance then due per account settled,	-	Folio 122,	£ 550,871	0 2
May 5, 1781,	By cash received of sundry persons,	-	192,	3,650,388	18 5 1-4
	By ditto received on account of the Land Office, 2,000,000 <i>l.</i> emitted the 14th July, 1780,	-	195,	125,973	4 8
	By cash received into the Loan Office, 1778 establishment,	-	196,	18,081	0 0
	By cash received of the auditors for the 10,000,000 <i>l.</i> emitted the 16th October, 1780,	-	198,	82,912	2 0
	By cash received into the Loan Office, 1779 establishment,	-	200,	9,999,990	0 0
	By cash received of the auditors, emitted for clothing the army,	-	201,	1,620	0 0
	By ditto of ditto in part of the 15,000,000 <i>l.</i> emitted March the 1st, 1781,	-	202,	1,125,000	0 0
November 3,	By ditto of ditto, for balance of the said emission,	-	203,	8,571,420	0 0
	By ditto received of sundry persons,	-	248,	6,428,580	0 0
	By ditto ditto of the auditors for the 20,00,000 <i>l.</i> emitted the 7th May, 1781,	-	253,	5,908,818	11 4 1-4
	By ditto received on account of the Land Office,	-	262,	19,999,999	10 0
	By ditto into the Loan Office, 1778 establishment,	-	260,	4,252,724	3 1
	By ditto ditto, 1779 ditto,	-	263,	2,238	0 0
		-	264,	104,600	0 0
				£ 60,823,216	9 8 1-2
By balance due as per contra,				£ 3,277,566	13 6 1-4

The said report was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer's accounts do pass.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An account of Messrs. Dixon and Nicolson, late printers to the Commonwealth, for public services, was presented to the House, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to ascertain the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and that Messrs. Ronald and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Thomas Smith reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, inspected several others to them referred, and found them truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the said enrolled bills to the Senate for their inspection.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to alter the manner of discharging tobacco fees;" and that Mr. Ronald do prepare and bring in the same.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, 'for farther continuing and amending the act 'for appointing naval officers and ascertaining their fees, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, 'for farther continuing and amending an act 'for appointing naval officers and ascertaining their fees, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "concerning wagons and horses;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill

"to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That the names of the members of this House be immediately called over.

The House was accordingly called over, and the names of the members who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Mr. George Stewart, a member for the county of Accomac; Mr. James Marks, a member for the county of Albemarle; Mr. William Royall, a member for the county of Amelia; Mr. Samuel Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Mr. Henry Bell, a member for the county of Buckingham; Mr. Francis Eppes, a member for the county of Chesterfield; Mr. Creed Haskins, a member for the county of Cumberland; Mr. Robert Bolling, a member for the county of Dinwiddie; Mr. Newman Brockenbrough, a member for the county of Essex; Mr. Benjamin Dulaney, a member for the county of Fairfax; Mr. Daniel Boone, a member for the county of Fayette; Mr. Archer Matthews, a member for the county of Greenbrier; Messrs. Edmund Wilkins and John Turner, members for the county of Greensville; Mr. George Watkins, a member for the county of Halifax; Mr. George Nicholas, a member for the county of Hanover; Mr. Joseph Prentiss, a member for the county of James City; Messrs. Isaac Cocks and Willis Greene, members for the county of Jefferson; Mr. Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; Mr. Waffendall Kendall, a member for the county of King George; Messrs. John Taylor and Robert Clarke Jacobs, members for the county of Lancaster; Mr. Francis Peyton, a member for the county of Loudoun; Mr. Nicholas Hopson, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Messrs. Benjamin Logan and John Edwards, members for the county of Lincoln; Messrs. Lewis Burwell, jr. and Samuel Goode, members for the county of Mecklenburg; Mr. Robert Sayres, a member for the county of Montgomery; Messrs. Lyddall Bacon and Armistead Russell, members for the county of New Kent; Mr. John Gordon, a member for the county of Northumberland; Messrs. Benjamin Lankford and Haynes Morgan, members for the county of Pittsylvania; Mr. Joseph Moore, a member for the county of Prince Edward; Mr. Nathaniel Harrison, a member for the county of Prince George; Mr. John Hooe, a member for the county of Prince William; Mr. William Smith, a member for the county of Richmond; Mr. Edwin Young, a member for the county of Shenandoah; Messrs. James Kee and William Hart, members for the county of Surry; Messrs. Gray Jenkins and Nathaniel Dunn, members for the county of Sussex; Messrs. Edward Harwood and Cole Digges, members for the county of Warwick; Messrs. James Innes and Samuel Irwin, members for the county of Yohogania; and Mr. William Reynolds, a member for the county of York.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, be authorised and empowered to send special messengers into the adjacent counties to take into custody, wherever to be found, the absent members of such counties, and Mr. Speaker is desired to issue his warrant accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, do apply to the quartermaster general of this State, for as many express riders and horses, as may be necessary to send for the delinquent members, agreeable to the above order, and the said quartermaster general is required to furnish the same.

*Ordered*, That during the continuance of the present session of Assembly, it be a standing order of the day, that as soon as the Speaker takes the chair, the clerk shall proceed to call over the names of the several members.

*Resolved*, That this House will, proceed with the utmost rigor against any member, who shall absent himself, without leave of absence first obtained.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to exchange and fund outstanding auditors warrants;" and that Messrs. Hunter and Clendinnen, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "for the relief of persons who have had their property destroyed by the enemy, or who have had their grain impressed for the use of the army;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Strother presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate and affix the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service;" and the same was received, and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to alter the manner of discharging tobacco fees;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Hunter presented, according to order, a bill "to exchange and fund outstanding auditors warrants;" and the same was received and read the first time; and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the bill "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue," with amendments, be recommitted to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to legalize the measures taken by Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of this Commonwealth, for supplying

the Allied army and militia, employed in the siege of York;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "to vest certain lands, whereof Burgess is seized as tenant for life, in trustees, and for other purposes;" and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Sayres, one of the members for the county of Montgomery, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Sayres be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. George Watkins, one of the members for the county of Halifax, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over,

*Ordered*, That the said George Watkins be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

A bill, "for the relief of persons, who have had their property destroyed by the enemy, or who have had their grain impressed for the use of the army;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to proceed this day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, until the first Monday in November next; and they have added another person to the nomination for the said appointment. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, till the first Monday in November next; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Mann Page, Southall and Travis, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House, and reported, that they had according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found the numbers therein, to stand as followeth:

For Arthur Lee, Esq. 39 For Paul Carrington, Esq. 30

*Resolved*, That Arthur Lee, Esq. be appointed a delegate, to represent this State in Congress, until the first Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *Am. p. 13.*

A bill, "to alter the manner of discharging tobacco fees," was read the second time; and the question being put that the bill be engrossed, and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Information being made to the House, that judgments on motion in behalf of the Commonwealth, had been rendered against several sheriffs of counties lately ravaged by the enemy, by reason whereof they could not collect the taxes.

*Resolved*, That the Solicitor delay execution until the first day of April next, to those sheriffs whose collection has been prevented or retarded by the movements of the enemy, within their counties.

*Resolved*, That in all cases where any sheriff or collector of taxes, can make it appear that he hath applied at the auditors office, and hath offered to make a settlement of his collection, and hath been ready to pay the amount of the same, and that it hath not been owing to any default or negligence of his, that such settlement or payment hath been delayed; and also, in all cases, where any sheriff or collector hath lodged money in the treasury for the purpose aforesaid, but without any warrant from the auditors for so doing, the said sheriff or collector, ought not to be subjected to the payment of damages, or of interest; and all sheriffs or collectors under the aforesaid circumstances against whom judgments have been obtained, ought to be discharged therefrom, provided they pay the principal sum of such judgments, on or before the first day of April next.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Meriwether Smith, Ronald and Mann Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of John Brown, Richard Wade and John Morton, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such parts of the petition of the said John Brown, Richard Wade and John Morton, as pray that they may severally be allowed the full pay of a soldier, from the time they



were taken prisoners by a party of the Indians at the Salt Springs, in the county of Kentucky, which happened on the 8th day of February, 1778, whilst in the service of this State, until the 11th of September, 1781, the time that they effected their escape, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to settle the pay due to them in specie.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that a certain proportion of land may be allotted to them, as well for their services, as for their sufferings whilst in captivity, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee, do carry the first resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for regulating officers fees, and fixing a proper allowance to witnesses and venire men."

A bill, "to regulate and affix the pay of the militia heretofore called into service;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills, "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes," being read:

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, December 29, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg, attending in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said Samuel Goode be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to legalize the measures taken by Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of the Commonwealth, for supplying the Allied army and militia, employed in the siege of York," was read the third time;

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to indemnify Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of this Commonwealth, and to legalize certain acts of his administration.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "for ascertaining the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Talbot presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting the accounts of Meriwether Smith, Esq.; also, to the resolutions for making certain allowances to John Caldwell and Alexander Buntain, wounded soldiers; and they have agreed to the bill "for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the houses of Miles Selden and others, in the town of Richmond, which were destroyed by the enemy; also, to the resolution respecting the memorial of Thomas Smith, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment, and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting the claim of Daniel Clarke, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the resolution for appointing Arthur Lee, Esq. a delegate to represent this State in Congress; and to the bill "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution respecting the claim of Daniel Clarke; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting the accounts of James Trabue, a purchasing commissary in Kentucky; also, to the bill "to enable Henry McCabe to dispose of certain lands," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment, and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, on continental establishment, and of the officers, soldiers, sailors and marines, in the service of this State, and for other purposes," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to regulate tobacco fees, and fixing the allowances to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men," was read the second time; and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Talbot and Strother.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming,'" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes, being read;"

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 31, 1781.

The House being informed that Mr. Lyddall Bacon, one of the members for the county of New Kent, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms,

*Ordered*, That the said Lyddall Bacon be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Creed Haskins, one of the members for the county of Cumberland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Saturday, the 22d instant,

*Ordered*, That the said Creed Haskins be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately;

The House was accordingly called over, and the names of those who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Mr. George Stewart, a member for the county of Accomac; Mr. James Marks, a member for the county of Albemarle; Mr. William Royall, a member for the county of Amelia; Mr. Robert Clark, a member for the county of Bedford; Mr. Henry Bell, a member for the county of Buckingham; Mr. Francis Eppes, a member for the county of Chesterfield; Mr. Robert Bolling, a member for the county of Dinwiddie; Mr. Newman Brockenbrough, a member for the county of Essex; Mr. Archer Matthews, a member for the county of Greenbrier; Messrs. Edmund Wilkins and John Turner, members for the county of Greensville; Mr. George Nicholas, a member for the county of Hanover; Mr. Joseph Prentiss, a member for the county of James City; Mr. Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; Messrs. John Taylor and Robert Clarke Jacobs, members for the county of Lancaster; Mr. Francis Peyton, a member for the county of Loudoun; Mr. Nicholas Hopson, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Mr. Armistead Russell, a member for the county of New Kent; Mr. John Gordon, a member for the county of Northumberland; Messrs. Benjamin Lankford and Haynes Morgan, members for the county of Pittsylvania; Mr. William Mayo, jun. a member for the county of Powhatan; Mr. William Smith, a member for the county of Richmond; Messrs. James Kee and William Hart, members for the county of Surry; Messrs. Gray Judkins and Nathaniel Dunn, members for the county of



Sussex; Mr. Edward Harwood, a member for the county of Warwick; and Mr. William Reynolds, a member for the county of York.

An engrossed bill, "to regulate and affix the pay of the militia heretofore called into service;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to regulate and affix the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "concerning wagons and horses," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have receded from their amendments disagreed to by this House to the bill, "to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco, and for other purposes." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate the election of members of the General Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time.

*Ordered*, That the said bill do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the account of Dunlap and Hayes, public printers, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the account of the said Dunlap and Hayes against the public, for services by them performed on public account, is reasonable; and that they ought to be allowed and paid the sum of four hundred and thirty-five pounds ten shillings specie, the amount of the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to indemnify Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of this Commonwealth, and to legalize certain acts of his administration," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. Also, they have agreed to the bill "for regulating the military and naval arrangements of this State," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for making certain allowances to John Brown, Richard Wade and John Morton. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed to settle the account of Col. Russell, for his expenses in attending this Assembly, on behalf of the other officers, to the day on which the bill "for regulating their pay," passed this House. And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Talbot reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses, and venire men," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Gen. Greene, which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government."



*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning wagons and horses," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for supplying the southern army with wagons and horses."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for laying taxes in certain enumerated commodities;" and that Mr. Ronald do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, January 1, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "for ascertaining the taxes and duties within this Commonwealth, comprising them in one act, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the Governor, with advice of Council, to enforce the execution of the last recruiting law;" and that Messrs. Strother, Hunter, Southall and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, be discharged from proceeding on the paper entitled "instructions to the delegates of King and Queen county, said to be written by John Warden," to them referred.

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be desired to order prosecution against the said Warden.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the Governor to call upon all such counties as are deficient under any law, since the year 1777;" and that Messrs. Moore and Travis, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing letters from Gen. Washington, and the President of Congress; which were read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Boyd's Hole, setting forth, that the warehouses at the said inspection, have been twice broken open during the last and present years, without the default of the petitioners, and certain tobacco stolen thereout; and praying to be reimbursed by the public for the said loss; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Richard Evers Lee, setting forth, that he was one-fourth part owner of the sloop Warwick, which was burnt at Osborne's, on the approach of the British, in the month of June last; that the said vessel was burnt by the orders of Baron Steuben and Commodore Lewis, for the security of the trading fleet, then at that place; and praying to be made compensation for the same, is reasonable; and that the commercial agent ought to appoint two persons to ascertain the damages which the petitioner has sustained, in consequence of the said vessel being burnt, as aforesaid; and make report thereof, to the next session of Assembly.

The first resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the second resolution do lie on the table.

An engrossed bill, "for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "for giving farther time to sheriffs or collectors of taxes, due for the year 1781, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county to hold their courts at any other place, than the courthouse in the said county;" and that Mr. Wray do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill, "for laying taxes in certain enumerated commodities;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for allowing farther time to sheriffs or collectors of taxes, due for the year 1781, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the resolutions which lay on the table, for making certain allowances to John Simster and John Morgan, wounded soldiers; and the same being twice read were, on the question severally put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the petition of John Simster, setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the continental service, and was in Col. Buford's defeat to the southward, where he had the misfortune to lose his right arm, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half pay during life; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, That the petition of John Morgan, setting forth, that he was in Col. Buford's defeat to the southward, and at that time had the misfortune to receive several wounds in his head, and to lose three of his fingers from his right hand, whereby he is rendered unable to support himself by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed six months' pay for his present relief, with the farther allowance of half pay during life; and that he ought to be furnished by the commissary of stores with a blanket and a suit of clothes, to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it is represented that John Conan hath, at the instance of General Clarke, done several services in the capacity of a surgeon, and found medicines and accommodations for General Clarke's troops; but for want of certain vouchers, his account cannot be finally liquidated and adjusted; and it is just, that a certain portion of his supposed balance, be advanced in relief of his present urgent necessities.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to advance to him, the sum of one thousand dollars, as a part of his demand, for his present support and maintenance.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Banister do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for ascertaining the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, on continental establishment, and also, of the officers, soldiers, sailors and marines, in the service of this State, and for other purposes;" also, they have agreed to the resolution for paying Col. Russell's expenses, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. John Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for making certain allowances to John Simster and John Morgan, wounded soldiers. And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;'" and "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, January 2, 1782.

Mr. Wray presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county, to hold their courts at any other place than the courthouse in the said county;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Innes, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, respecting the laying in salt provisions for the army, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill "to continue and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving certain powers to the Governor and Council, and for punishing those who shall oppose the execution of the laws,'" be discharged therefrom.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the appointment of an additional clerk to the War Office, by the direction of the late Governor and



Council, be confirmed; and that he be allowed the same salary, as is allowed by law to the assistant clerk of the Council.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Strother presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the Governor with advice of Council, to enforce the execution of the last recruiting law;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

An engrossed bill, "for allowing further time to sheriffs or collectors of taxes, due for the year 1781, and for other purposes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for allowing further time to sheriffs or collectors of taxes, due for the year 1781, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Meriwether Smith do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Banister do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for laying taxes in certain enumerated commodities;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, on continental establishment, and also, of the officers, soldiers, sailors and marines in the service of this State, and for other purposes;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Andrew Moore presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the Governor, to call upon all such counties as are deficient under any law, since the year 1777;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution which lay on the table, for making certain allowances to John Chew, jun. and the same being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the petition of John Chew, jun. setting forth, that in the Summer of 1780, he was appointed a lieutenant, in the second regiment of militia, ordered from this State for the relief of South Carolina; that he was in General Gates's defeat, where he had the misfortune to lose his left arm, and receive six wounds in his body, which has greatly impaired his constitution, and rendered him unable to support himself and family by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's pay for his present relief, and the farther allowance of half the pay of a lieutenant during life; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, from an act of the General Assembly, in 1777, for completing the troops of the continental line of this State, the old 9th Virginia regiment, was deprived of an equal right in the new levies with the rest of the regiments, by which means the officers of the said regiment, were not only injured in their rank, but also in their reputation.

*Resolved, therefore*, As a mark of the approbation of the General Assembly, that a sword be presented to each of the officers of the said 9th regiment who are now in service, or become supernumerary, on the last arrangement; and that the Governor be desired to cause the same to be provided.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zachariah Johnston do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the more effectual settlement of the accounts of public agents, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made no amendment thereto.

On a motion made,



*Resolved*, That this House will, on the first Monday in May next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. John Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to regulate and affix the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service;” also, to the bill “to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government;” also, to the bill “for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;” and to the bill “to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and to alter the terms of holding the same;” and they have agreed to the resolutions respecting the account of Messrs. Dunlap and Hayes; and for making a certain allowance to John Chew, jun. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That the public printers be directed to strike without delay 150 copies of the act, “directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;” and also, 250 copies of the act, “for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue.”

A bill, “to empower the Governor, with advice of Council, to enforce the execution of the last recruiting law;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, “to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county, to hold courts at any other place than the courthouse in the said county;” was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bill “to repeal the act, ‘to suppress excessive gaming,’” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, January 3, 1782.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to regulate the inspection of flour;” and that Mr. Mann Page do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to regulate impresses;” and that Messrs. Arthur Lee and Mann Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

An engrossed bill, “to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county to hold courts at any other place than the courthouse in the said county;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county to hold courts at any other place than the courthouse in the said county.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wray do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill “to regulate the inspection of flour;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, according to order, a bill “to regulate impresses;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

An engrossed bill, “for laying a tax in certain enumerated commodities;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for laying a tax in certain enumerated commodities.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for the relief of persons who have had their property destroyed by the enemy, or who have had their grain impressed for the use of the army;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for the relief of persons who have had their property destroyed by the enemy, or who have had their grain impressed for the use of the army.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to recruit the Virginia line on the continental establishment;” and that Mr. Mann Page do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “for ascertaining the manner of collecting and paying taxes due in arrear, before the year 1781;” and that Mr. Meriveth Smith do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to empower the Governor, with advice of Council, to enforce the execution of the last recruiting law;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for allowing further time to sheriffs or collectors of taxes due for the year 1781, and for other purposes;” also, to the bill “for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allow-

ance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and also, to the bill "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government." And then he withdrew.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men;" and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Talbot do acquaint the Senate therewith.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for further continuing and amending an act, 'for appointing naval officers and ascertaining their fees;' and the same being read, were agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to recruit the Virginia line on continental establishment;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "for ascertaining the manner of collecting and paying taxes due in arrear, before the year 1781;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Ordered, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill "concerning the lead mines," be discharged therefrom.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Governor and Council, be directed to appoint as soon as may be, three fit and able persons to examine and settle the accounts of the managers of the lead mines; and report the same to the next Assembly, in order that compensation may be made to the proprietors of the said mines; and the said resolution being read a second time, was on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for ascertaining the manner of collecting and paying taxes due in arrear before the year 1781, was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the account of Dixon and Nicolson, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerks table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the account of the said Dixon and Nicolson against the public, for printing services, by them performed on public account, is reasonable; and that they ought to be allowed the sum of 581*l*. 11*s*. 0*d*. specie, the amount of the same.

Ordered, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee :

X Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government;" and agree to the amendments made to other of their amendments to the said bill; also, they have agreed to the bill "for supplying the Southern army with wagons and horses," with several amendments. And then he withdrew.

X The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford :

X Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county, to hold courts at any other place than the courthouse in the said county." And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to regulate impresses;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to regulate the inspection of flour;" was read the second time, amended, and together with the amendments, ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and also, on the bills "to repeal the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming;" and "to empower the Governor to call upon all such counties as are deficient under any law, since the year 1777," being read;

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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FRIDAY, January 4, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "to regulate impresses;" was read the third time.

Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, to regulate impresses."

Ordered, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



An engrossed bill, "to regulate the inspection of flour;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to regulate the inspection of flour."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the Governor, with advice of Council, to enforce the execution of the last recruiting law;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up; and the question being put, that the same do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to advance upon account 200 pounds in specie, to Arthur Lee, Esq. a delegate to Congress, out of any public money in his hands.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to recruit the Virginia line on continental establishment;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House, accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Resolved*, That during the continuance of the present session of Assembly, fifty-five members of this House, be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting an additional clerk to the War Office, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined, and passed the treasurer's accounts. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the naval officers, to receive the duties in their several districts;" and that Mr. Meriwether Smith do prepare and bring in the same.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for ascertaining the manner of collecting and paying taxes due in arrears, before the year 1781," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the President of Congress, with several resolutions of that body which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

An engrossed bill, "to recruit the Virginia line, on continental establishment;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to recruit the Virginia line on continental establishment."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the naval officers, to receive the duties in their several districts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for laying a tax in certain enumerated commodities." And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to empower the naval officers to reserve the duties in their several districts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" and that Mr. Strother do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly, for their services at the present session,

	<i>In Specie.</i>
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates,	£ 352 10
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate,	176 5
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, jun. clerk of the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances,	114
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice and Trade,	114



To Mr. Freeman Eppes, serjeant at arms to the House of Delegates, including a deficiency of four days, short allowance, at the last session of Assembly,	-	-	£ 100
To Mr. William Pierce, serjeant at arms to the Senate,	-	-	95
To John Creagh, William Drinkard, William Hicks and Daniel Hicks, door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each	-	-	33 5
To Thomas Paul and William Hicks, door-keepers to the Senate, each	-	-	33 5
To Elizabeth Jones, for taking care of and keeping clean the public buildings,	-	-	10

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be directed to audit the accounts of the members of the General Assembly, for their attendance in specie, and issue warrants thereupon.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford :

*MR. SPEAKER*,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting the claim of John Conan ; also, they have agreed to the bill “to recruit the Virginia line on the continental establishment.” And then he withdrew.

*Resolved*, That when this House doth adjourn for the present session, it will adjourn until the 30th day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Strother presented, according to order, a bill “to amend the act, ‘for adjusting claims for property, impressed, or taken for public service;’” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford :

*MR. SPEAKER*,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to regulate the inspection of flour,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments ; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page, do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, “to empower the naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass ; and that the title be, “an act, to empower the naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Meriwether Smith do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, “to amend the act, ‘for adjusting claims, for property, impressed or taken for public service;’” was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford :

*MR. SPEAKER*,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to empower the naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments, and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Meriwether Smith, do acquaint the Senate therewith.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, January 5, 1782.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Executive are hereby directed to order the auditors of public accounts to open a new set of books, wherein there shall be kept an account of the amount of all taxes arising, or which may become due to the public, from the operation of an act, passed in this present session of Assembly, entitled “an act, for ascertaining certain taxes, and for establishing a permanent revenue;” in which books, they shall particularly state the amount of taxes due by each county, and shall also, raise accounts to show the sums arising from every particular subject of taxation ; they shall also be required to keep correct and particular accounts of all money or commodities received in payment of such taxes, and the manner in which such commodities and money are appropriated ; and also, particular accounts of all expenses attending the collection of the said taxes, and of all deficiencies and balances due by the several sheriffs and collectors of the same, or any other person whatsoever ; and that such accounts be laid before the General Assembly at the beginning of every session.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired to take proper measures for the speedy and safe removal to Richmond of the public records and papers, belonging to the Superior Courts from Staunton and other places, where they may be lodged at the time.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for 'public service,'" was read the third time; and the question being put, that the same do pass.

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to regulate impresses." And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That in case of danger from an enemy, by invasion, or from infectious disorder, the Governor with advice of Council, do appoint any other place than Richmond, for the meeting of the next session of Assembly, giving notice thereof, by proclamation.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Thomas Smith reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for settling the accounts of the proprietors of the lead mines; for paying a sum of money to Messrs. Dixon & Nicolson; and for advancing a sum of money to Arthur Lee, Esq. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive are hereby directed not to pay any money or specifics on continental account, except to the financier general or his order, or other person specially appointed by Congress to receive the same; and that particular accounts of such payments and their vouchers for the same, be laid before the General Assembly, at the beginning of every session.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the quartermaster general of this State, be directed to adjust and settle the accounts of Richard Williams, John Estin, William Blunt and John Morgan, against the public, for services by them performed as express riders, sent by the serjeant at arms, for delinquent members.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions that the auditors open and keep a new set of books for making certain allowances to the officers of the General Assembly; that the Governor and Council appoint any other place for the meeting of the next Assembly, in case of danger; for removing the public records from Staunton; for auditing the accounts of the members of the General Assembly, in specie; for settling the accounts of certain express riders, on public account; and for preventing the payment of money or specifics on account of the United States, unless by order of the financier general. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed that when this House adjourns, it will adjourn until the first Monday in May next. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined all the other enrolled bills, which have been sent to their House and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to suspend the execution of an act, entitled 'an act, to empower the court of Greenbrier county to have a wagon road opened from their courthouse to the eastern waters.'"

"An act, for farther continuing an act, entitled an act, 'to exempt artificers employed at iron works, from militia duty.'"

"An act, to repeal an act, entitled an act, 'for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Governor and Council to lay an embargo, for a limited time.'"

"An act, for incorporating the town of Fredericksburg, in the county of Spottsylvania."

"An act, to empower the Register of the Land Office, to appoint a deputy on the western waters."

"An act, for restoring to Robert Baine, his former estate."

"An act, for dividing the county of Bedford."

"An act, to suspend the operation of an act, 'to enable the Congress of the United States, to lay a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes."

"An act, to secure to persons who derive titles to lots, lands, or tenements, under the lottery, or under a deed of trust of the late William Byrd, Esq. a fee simple estate therein."

"An act, for the relief of persons who have been or may be injured by the destruction of the records of county courts."

"An act, to empower the justices of James City county, to hold their courts at any other place within the same than Williamsburg, during the continuance of the smallpox there."

"An act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State."

"An act, to empower the Executive to fit out a certain naval force."

"An act, for establishing a new ferry."

"An act, giving powers to the Governor with the advice of Council, to appoint a special court for the trial of certain offenders."

"An act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service."

"An act, for the relief of military pensioners."

"An act, to vest certain lands, whereof Burgess Ball is seized as tenant for life, in trustees, and for other purposes."

"An act, to continue and amend the several acts of Assembly respecting the inspection of tobacco, and for other purposes."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving farther time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes.'"

"An act, to enable Henry McCabe to dispose of certain lands."

"An act, to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, and also of the officers, soldiers, sailors, and marines in the service of this State, and for other purposes."

"An act, to indemnify Thomas Nelson, jun. Esq. late Governor of this Commonwealth, and to legalize certain acts of his administration."

"An act, for regulating the military and naval arrangements of this State."

"An act, directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes."

"An act, for supplying the southern army with wagons and horses."

"An act, to empower the treasurer to borrow money, tobacco, hemp or flour, for the immediate support of government."

"An act, to regulate and affix the pay of the militia heretofore called into service."

"An act, for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for farther continuing and amending an act, 'for appointing naval officers and ascertaining their fees, and for other purposes.'"

"An act, to remove the suspension of the Superior Courts, and to alter the terms of holding the same."

"An act, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue."

"An act, for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government."

"An act, for allowing further time to the sheriffs or collectors of taxes due for the year 1781, and for other purposes."

"An act, for laying a tax in certain enumerated commodities."

"An act, to empower the justices of Elizabeth City county, to hold courts at any other place than the courthouse, in the said county."

"An act, to regulate impresses."

"An act, to regulate the inspection of flour."

"An act, to recruit the Virginia line on the continental establishment."

"An act, to empower the naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts."

And then the House adjourned until the thirtieth day of March next.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND,

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE TWENTY-FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER, IN THE YEAR OF  
OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO.*

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RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

.....  
1828.



**JOURNAL**  
OF THE  
**HOUSE OF DELEGATES.**

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY,**

*BEGUN* and held at the public buildings in the City of Richmond, on Monday, the twenty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two.

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MONDAY, October 21, 1782.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, October 22, 1782.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, October 23, 1782.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 12 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, October 24, 1782.

The House met according to their adjournment.

A member returned on a new writ, having taken the oaths appointed by law, took his seat in the House.  
*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.



*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Thomas Parramore, a member for the county of Accomac; Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Walker, members for the county of Albemarle; Everard Meade, a member for the county of Amelia; Hugh Rose and William Cabell, members for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Robert Clarke, a member for the county of Bedford; Adam Stephen and Dolphin Drew, members for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Madison and Thomas Lewis, members for the county of Botetourt; Frederick Maclin and William Stith, members for the county of Brunswick; Charles Patteson and Thomas Anderson, members for the county of Buckingham; Robert Adams, jun. and William Brown, members for the county of Campbell; William Green Munford, a member for the county of Charles City; Henry Skipwith and Carter Henry Harrison, members for the county of Cumberland; French Strother, a member for the county of Culpeper; George Booker, a member for the county of Elizabeth City; Charles Broadwater, a member for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, a member for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, a member for the county of Fluvanna; John Page and Thomas Smith, members for the county of Gloucester; John Payne, a member for the county of Goochland; James Reid and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Edmund Wilkins, a member for the county of Greenville; John Coleman and Walker Daniel, members for the county of Halifax; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Josiah Parker and John Seasbrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; John Carter, a member for the county of Loudoun; William White and William Du-Val, members for the county of Louisa; Henry Stokes and Sylvanus Walker, members for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazier, members for the county of Middlesex; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Kincher Godwin and Wells Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; Thomas Newton, jun. and Thomas Mathews, members for the county of Norfolk; John Bowdoin, a member for the county of Northampton; Benjamin Porter, jun. and Benjamin Hayley, members for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Robinson and Thomas Walke, members for the county of Princess Anne; Arthur Lee and Lynaugh Helin, members for the county of Prince William; Robert Wormeley Carter and James Gordon, jun. members for the county of Richmond; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Taverner Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; James Kee and Richard Cocke, members for the county of Surry; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; Richard Henry Lee, a member for the county of Westmoreland; Arthur Campbell and David Campbell, members for the county of Washington; and John Hutchings, a member for the borough of Norfolk.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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#### FRIDAY, October 25, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. George Booker, one of the members for the county of Elizabeth City; Mr. John Payne, one of the members for the county of Goochland; and Mr. Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday,

*Ordered*, That the said George Booker, John Payne and Richard Cocke, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

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#### MONDAY, October 28, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Mathews, a member for the county of Norfolk; Mr. Thomas Walke, a member for the county of Princess Anne; Mr. Benjamin Porter, a member for the county of Orange; Mr. Thomas Anderson, a member for the county of Buckingham; and Mr. Henry Stokes, a member for the county of Lunenburg, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Mathews, Thomas Walke, Benjamin Porter, Thomas Anderson and Henry Stokes, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. James Kee, a member for the county of Surry; Mr. French Strother, a member for the county of Culpeper; Mr. William Cabell, a member for the county of Amherst; Mr. Thomas Walker, a member for the county of Albemarle; Mr. Edmund Wilkins, a member for the county of Greenville; and Mr. William White, a member for the county of Louisa, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said James Kee, French Strother, William Cabell, Thomas Walke, Edmund Wilkins, and William White, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately;

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Edward Meade, a member for the county of Amelia; Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Robert Clarke, a member for the county of Bedford; Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Madison and Thomas Lewis, members for the county of Botetourt; Frederick Maclin and William Stith, members for the county of Brunswick; Charles Patteson, a member for the county of Buckingham; Robert Adams, jun. and William Brown, members for the county of Campbell; William Green Munford, a member for the county of Charles City; Henry Skipwith and Carter Henry Harrison, members for the county of Cumberland; William Pickett, a member for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, a member for the county of Fluvanna; John Page and Thomas Smith, members for the county of Gloucester; James Reid and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; John Coleman, a member for the county of Halifax; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Josiah Parker and John Scasbrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; John Carter, a member for the county of Loudoun; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Kincher Godwin and Wills Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; Thomas Newton, jun. a member for the county of Norfolk; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; Lynaugh Helin, a member for the county of Prince William; Robert Wormeley Carter and James Gordon, jun. members for the county of Richmond; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Taverner Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; Richard Henry Lee, a member for the county of Westmoreland; Arthur Campbell and David Campbell, members for the county of Washington.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, be authorised and empowered to send special messengers to take into his custody wherever to be found, the bodies of the foregoing members; and Mr. Speaker is desired to issue his warrants accordingly.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

TUESDAY, October 29, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Everard Meade, a member for the county of Amelia; and Mr. William Green Munford, a member for the county of Charles City, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Everard Meade and William Green Munford, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, October 30, 1782.

Another member having taken the oaths required by law, took his seat in the House.

The House being informed that Messrs. Robert Wormeley Carter, and James Gordon, jun. members for the county of Richmond; and Messrs. Robert Adams, jun. and William Browne, members for the county of Campbell, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, jun. Robert Adams, jun. and William Browne, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, October 31, 1782.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

---

FRIDAY, November 1, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Henry Skipwith, one of the members for the county of Cumberland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Henry Skipwith, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Clarke, one of the members for the county of Bedford, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Clarke, be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,  
The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

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MONDAY, November 4, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. John Coleman, one of the members for the county of Halifax, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Coleman, be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Smith, one of the members for the county of Gloucester; and Mr. Richard Henry Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on the 28th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Smith and Richard Henry Lee, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness; employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Hugh Rose, a member for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Madison and Thomas Lewis, members for the county of Botetourt; Frederick Maclin and William Stith, members for the county of Brunswick; Charles Patteson, a member for the county of Buckingham; Carter Henry Harrison, a member for the county of Cumberland; William Pickett, a member for the county of Fauquier; John Page, a member for the county of Gloucester; James Reid and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Josiah Parker and John Scasbrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; John Carter, a member for the county of Loudoun; William Du-Val, a member for the county of Louisa; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Kincher Godwin and Wells Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; William Dandridge, a member for the county of New Kent; John Hall, a member for the county of Northumberland; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; Lynaugh Helm, a member for the county of Prince William; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Tavernier Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; Arthur Campbell and David Campbell, members for the county of Washington.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



TUESDAY, November 5, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. William Dandridge, one of the members for the county of New Kent; and William Du-Val, one of the members for the county of Louisa, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said William Dandridge and William Du-Val, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Carter, one of the members for the county of Loudoun, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Carter be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms, attending this House, take into his custody Thomas Jefferson, a member for the county of Albemarle; Hugh Rose, a member for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Madison and Thomas Lewis, members for the county of Botetourt; Frederick Maclin and William Smith, members for the county of Brunswick; Charles Patteson, a member for the county of Buckingham; Carter Henry Harrison, a member for the county of Cumberland; William Pickett, a member for the county of Fauquier; John Page, a member for the county of Gloucester; James Reid and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Josiah Parker and John Seabrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex; Charles Martin, a member for the county of Monongalia; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Kinchen Godwin and Wells Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; Thomas Newton, jun. a member for the county of Norfolk; John Hull, a member for the county of Northumberland; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Robinson, a member for the county of Princess Anne; Lynaugh Helm, a member for the county of Prince William; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Taverner Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; Richard Cocke, a member for the county of Surry; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; and Arthur Campbell and David Campbell, members for the county of Washington.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, November 6, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Messrs. Frederick Maclin and William Smith, members for the county of Brunswick; and Mr. Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said William Ronald, Frederick Maclin, William Smith and Arthur Campbell, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Madison, one of the members for the county of Botetourt, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Madison be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, be directed to attend Carter Henry Harrison Esq. a member returned to serve in this House, for the county of Cumberland, in order to his necessary qualification as a member, agreeable to law.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Thomas Jefferson, a member for the county of Albemarle; Hugh Rose, a member for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephens, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Charles Patteson, a member for the county of Buckingham; John Page, jun. a member for the county of Caroline; Carter Henry Harrison, a member for the county of Cumberland; William

Gatewood, a member for the county of Essex; William Pickett, a member for the county of Fauquier; James Reid and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Josiah Parker and John Scasbrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Kinchen Godwin, a member for the county of Nansemond; John Hull, a member for the county of Northumberland; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson, and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Taverner Beale, a member for the county of Shenandoah; Richard Cocke, a member for the county of Surry; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; and David Campbell, a member for the county of Washington.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, November 7, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Kinchen Godwin, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; and Mr. John Page, one of the members for the county of Caroline, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Kinchen Godwin and John Page, jun. be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Carter Henry Harrison be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page, one of the members for the county of Gloucester; Mr. Thomas Roane, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; and Messrs. Holt Richeson, and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; who have been taken into the custody of special messengers by Mr. Speaker's warrants, agreeable to an order of the 28th ult. be discharged out of custody; it appearing to the House that they have good cause for their present non-attendance.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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#### FRIDAY, November 8, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Pickett be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Jefferson, one of the members for the county of Albemarle, who has been taken into the custody of a special messenger by Mr. Speaker's warrant, agreeable to an order of the 28th ult. be discharged out of custody; it appearing to the House that he has good cause for his present non-attendance.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Hugh Rose, a member for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Charles Patteson, a member for the county of Buckingham; William Gatewood, a member for the county of Essex; James Reid and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Nathaniel Burwell, a member for the county of James City; Josiah Parker and John Scasbrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Thomas Newton, jun. a member for the county



of Norfolk; John Hull, a member for the county of Northumberland; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; Nathaniel Harrison, a member for the county of King George; William Robinson, a member for the county of Princess Anne; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Taverner Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; Richard Cocke, a member for the county of Surry; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; and David Campbell, a member for the county of Washington.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, November 9, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Hugh Rose, one of the members for the county of Amherst; and Mr. Thomas Newton, one of the members for the county of Norfolk, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Hugh Rose and Thomas Newton, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. James Reid, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; and Messrs. Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said James Reid, Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes, be appointed serjeant at arms to this House.

*Ordered*, That John Creagh, William Drinkard and Daniel Hicks, be appointed door-keepers to this House, and that they give their attendance accordingly.

A petition of Zenas Taite; praying that he may be appointed door-keeper to this House; and also,

A petition of William Sweeney, for the same; and also,

A petition of John Hicks, for the same; and also,

A petition of Daniel Triplett, for the same;

Were severally presented to the House and read.

*Resolved*, That the said door-keeper be chosen by ballot, immediately.

The House accordingly proceeded to ballot for the said door-keeper; and the members having prepared tickets for the person to be appointed, and put the same into the ballot boxes, Messrs. Richard Lee, Wilkinson, Dandridge and Southall, were nominated a committee to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom a majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, accordingly to order, examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes to fall on John Hicks.

*Ordered*, That the said John Hicks be appointed a door-keeper to this House, and that he give his attendance accordingly.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Cabell, Charles Carter, Thomas Walker, Norvell, Stith, Wray, Munford, Talbot, Littleberry Mosby, Du-Val, Ruffin, Dandridge, and William White; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be from time to time referred to them, and report their proceedings thereupon to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Charles Carter, Carter Henry Harrison, Tazewell, Arthur Lee, Walker, Richard Lee, Talbot, Robert Wormeley Carter, Payne, Strother, Arthur Campbell, and Mercer; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and compare the same with the form prescribed by law; and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question touching returns, elections and privileges, and to report their proceedings with their opinion thereupon, from time to time, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections, to be heard at the bar of this House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do by themselves or their agents, within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House, or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House, or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members; giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters excepted to; and that the sitting members do by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the list on their parts to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Charles Carter, Prentiss, Tazewell, Richard Henry Lee, Carter Henry Harrison, Cabell, Edmondson, Robert Wormeley Carter, Meade, Joel Watkins, Randolph, Strother, John



Carter, Southall, Ronald, Thomson, Henderson, Skipwith, Peyton, Thruston, Wilkinson, Goodall, Pickett, Littleberry Mosby, Rufin, Coleman, Goode, William Smith, Taylor, Arthur Campbell, Clarke, Thomas Smith, Bolling, Booker, John Mosby, James Mason, Conway, Holcombe, Heath, Towles, Nelson, Anderson, Wilson, James Gordon, jun. Walke, Browne, Mercer, Adams, and William White; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all propositions and grievances, that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings with their opinion thereupon to the House; and all such propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of this House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Arthur Lee, Tazewell, Mercer, Dandridge, Du-Val, Peyton, Matthews, Marshall, Arthur Campbell, Porter, Thomas Moore and John Page; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters and things relating to courts of justice, and such other matters as shall from time to time be referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and also examine what laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session or are near expiring, and report the same to the House, with their opinions, which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Trade be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, Talbot, Matthews, Henderson, Peyton, Pickett, Ross, Gilchrist, Kee, Norvell, Ronald, Godwin, Joel Watkins, Shelton, Sawyers and Frazer; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all such things relating to the trade of this Commonwealth, and all matters that shall be from time to time to them referred, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information.

*Resolved*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances, seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections, and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to form a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Adam Craig be appointed clerk to the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice and Trade; and Mr. Edmund Pendleton, jun. to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating sundry matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to several letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

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#### MONDAY, November 11, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. William Gatewood, one of the members for the county of Essex; Mr. John Scasbrook Wells, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; and Mr. John Hull, one of the members for the county of Northumberland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said William Gatewood, John Scasbrook Wells and John Hull be discharged out of custody on paying fees.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating several additional matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof, which were read;

*Ordered*, That so much of the said letter and enclosures, as respects the information given by the delegates of this State in Congress, and the representation from the financier general, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the other enclosures stated, and referred to in the said letter, do lie on the table.

A petition of Townshend Dade and Beckwith Butler, guardians of the orphan children, and of Margaret Robinson, the widow of William Robinson lately deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the said children and widow, agreeable to the will and intention of their ancestor Maximilian Robinson, from whom they are descended in the whole blood, have an equitable interest in certain lands, which were designed to descend to them in fee tail, under the will of the said Maximilian; that by the want of form in the will of their uncle Henry Robinson, the said lands will now either escheat to the Commonwealth, or descend to strangers, to the blood of the original

owner; and praying that an act may pass, to vest the said lands in the said children in fee simple, subject to the widow's dower.

Also, a petition of John Holland, Albrington Holland, Dempsey Butler, Henry Norfleet and Levi Moore; setting forth, that they have been severally attainted and convicted of treason in the General Court, for which they have sincerely repented, and endeavored to expiate, by subsequent good conduct; and praying to be pardoned for the said treasons.

Also, a petition of Joseph Prentis; setting forth, that the public are indebted to him 10,462 lbs. of tobacco, for goods furnished the Board of Trade in the year 1781, for which he is unable to procure payment out of the funds of that department; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Brown, late physician general to the army of the United States; setting forth, that no provision is made by law, for making good the depreciation of pay due him for his services in that office; and that the usual bounty of lands given by law to the officers of the Virginia line on continental establishment does not extend to his case; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Maury; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he chartered a brigantine to the public agent for the purpose of carrying tobacco, to supply the officers and soldiers of the State prisoners in Charleston; which vessel with her cargo, was captured by the enemy for want of a proper certificate of clearance from the officer commanding at the enemy's post; and praying to be made compensation for the same.

Also, a petition of John Maclean; setting forth, that being a merchant, resident in Norfolk, and a citizen of this State, he left the same in the year 1774, to go to Britain for the cure of a dangerous disorder, under which he labored five years; and upon his late recovery, endeavoring to return to his family, has been arrested by an order from the governor, with directions to be sent to New York; and praying to be permitted to return to his family residence and allegiance.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions, together with the representation from the judges of the General Court, referred to and enclosed in the Governor's letters, be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from count de Rochambeau, containing his acknowledgments for the congratulations of the General Assembly, on the birth of a dauphin; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Cyrus Griffin, Esq. respecting arrears of pay due him as a delegate of this State in Congress; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from General Spotswood, respecting the present state of the legions under his command; also, a letter from the solicitor general, enclosing a return of taxes under the last collection; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Willis Wilson, surviving partner of John and Willis Wilson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the said company had transactions with sundry persons previous to the present war, who were then merchants, resident of this State, but have since joined the enemy, and their estates escheated to the Commonwealth; that the petitioner's absence from the State prevented him from asserting his claims against the said estates at the time they so escheated; and praying that the said claims may be now ascertained and allowed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Madison and Thomas Lewis, members for the county of Botetourt; Charles Pattenon, a member for the county of Buckingham; John Page, jr. a member for the county of Caroline; Francis Goode, a member for the county of Chesterfield; Charles Broadwater, a member for the county of Fairfax; George Clendinnen, a member for the county of Greenbrier; James Mason, a member for the county of Greenville; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; Nathaniel Burwell and William Norvell, members for the county of James City; Josiah Parker, a member for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Samuel Dedman, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; John Holcombe, a member for the county of Prince Edward; William Robinson, a member for the county of Princess Anne; Lynaugh Helm, a member for the county of Prince William; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Taverner Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; Richard Cocke, a member for the county of Surry; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; and David Campbell, a member for the county of Washington.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.



TUESDAY, November 12, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Madison, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; and Mr. Peter Saunders, one of the members for the county of Henry; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Madison and Peter Saunders, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Samuel Dedman, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; and Mr. William Du-Val, one of the members for the county of Louisa; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Samuel Dedman and William Du-Val, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Townshend Dade, and Beckwith Butler, guardians to William Robinson, an infant, praying that certain lands, whereof Maximilian Robinson died seised, may be vested in the said William Robinson and his heirs, agreeable to the intention of the will of the said Maximilian Robinson, reserving to Margaret Robinson mother of the said William Robinson, her dower therein, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Maclean, praying that he may be permitted to reside in this State, is reasonable; and that the said John Maclean, on taking the oaths to government, be entitled to all the privileges of other citizens.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Joseph Prentis, in behalf of himself and others, praying that ten thousand four hundred and sixty-two pounds of merchantable crop tobacco, with interest thereon, from the 10th of February, 1781, due for goods sold to the State, may be paid to them, is reasonable; and that the same be paid out of the funds allotted to the Commercial Department.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first and second resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the third resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Zachariah Johnston and John Cunningham, members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephen, a member for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Charles Patteson and Thomas Anderson, members for the county of Buckingham; John Page, jun. a member for the county of Caroline; Francis Goode, a member for the county of Chesterfield; Charles Broadwater, a member for the county of Fairfax; George Cleudinnen, a member for the county of Greenbrier; James Mason, a member for the county of Greensville; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry, a member for the county of Henry; Nathaniel Burwell and William Norvell, members for the county of James City; Josiah Parker, a member for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; Benjamin Haley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; John Holcombe, a member for the county of Prince Edward; William Robinson, a member for the county of Princess Anne; Lynaugh Helm, a member for the county of Prince William; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Taverner Beale, members for the county of Shenandoah; John Rogers, a member for the county of Southampton; Mann Page, a member for the county of Spotsylvania; Richard Cocks, a member for the county of Surry; David Mason and Michael Bailey, members for the county of Sussex; David Campbell, a member for the county of Washington; and Henry Tazewell, a member for the city of Williamsburg.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, be authorised and empowered to send special messengers, to take into custody wherever to be found, the bodies of such of the foregoing members for whom excuses have not been made, as reside in the adjacent counties; and Mr. Speaker is desired to issue his warrants accordingly.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That during the continuance of the present session, fifty members of this House be a sufficient number to proceed to business.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the said resolution be rejected.

A petition of John Wright, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was a mechanic in the British service at the siege and capitulation of York Town; and being solicitous to become a citizen, hath since taken the oaths of fidelity and allegiance; and praying to be admitted to the rights of citizenship.

Also, a memorial of sundry officers of the Virginia line, in the army of the United States, whose names are



thereunto subscribed, on behalf of themselves and the soldiers of the same line; setting forth, that the provision heretofore made by the legislature for their support, hath been wholly ineffectual, the certificates granted for their pay not being realized, and the lands allotted them being subject to the claims of Congress, and the intrusions of individuals; and praying that adequate and certain provision may be made for their pay and support.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Harrison; setting forth, that great injustice and inequality hath been done him by the commissioners of the county of Prince George, acting under the act, "for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue," in their assessment of his lands, both as to the quantity and value thereof; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Monongalia, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they are unable to pay the taxes imposed by the revenue law, through the scarcity of specie in their county, and that the want of the other alternatives, will reduce them to great distress; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the justices of Monongalia county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the place of holding courts in the said county, hath, by the extension of the boundary line, fallen into the State of Pennsylvania; and praying that an act may pass, to appoint another place for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Arthur Lee reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring; and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1769, entitled "an act, to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of this session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1777, entitled "an act, to prevent forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of this session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1778, entitled "an act, to enable the Governor and Council, to supply the armies and navies of the United States and of their Allies, with grain and flour," which was revived and continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of this session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed at the last session, entitled "an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth," which will expire at the end of this session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed at the last session, entitled "an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth," which will expire at the end of this session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1779, entitled "an act, to empower the judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail," which will expire on the first day of January next, ought to be farther continued.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of James Smith, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being a soldier in the service of this State, he received a wound at the battle of Guilford, which disabled him from procuring a livelihood, by labor, and in the cure of which, he incurred considerable expense; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of Francis Hill, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from the expectation of enjoying the happiness of domestic life, he some time ago, became bound in the ties of matrimony, to a certain Elizabeth Johnson, which, by the subsequent conduct of the said Elizabeth, hath involved him in extreme misery, and justifies his application to be dissolved from the bonds of matrimony; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, to form a plan of national defence against invasions; to examine into the state of the public arms, accoutrements, and ammunition; and to consult with the Executive on what assistance they may want from the legislature, for carrying the plan into execution.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Arthur Lee, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Walker, Mercer, Cabell, Meade, Thruston, Marshall, Hutchings, Matthews, and Charles Carter.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and that the several letters and papers referred to the said committee by a former order of the House, be again referred thereto.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 13, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. John Page, jun. one of the members for the county of Caroline, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Page be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill, "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill, "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing, and public vendues;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the judges of the General Court, to superintend and regulate the public jail;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States, and of their Allies, with grain and flour;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the Solicitor be directed to lay before this House, a state of the progress he has made in the settlement of the continental account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Thruston, and Richard Henry Lee, be added to the committee for Religion.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts, be directed to lay before this House, a list of all the pensioners, with the sums payable to each of them; that they also inform the House, what progress they have made in settling the claims made by the several county courts, and in granting warrants for the same, agreeable to the act for auditing certain public claims; and that they also inform the House, whether they have demanded from the several sheriffs, before accounting with them, certified copies from the clerks of the county courts, of the list of payments made to the said sheriffs, and returned by them upon oath, agreeable to law.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare a plan of national defence, to inquire into the state of the public arms and military stores, and to consult with the Executive thereupon, be discharged from proceeding therein.

A petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of the parish of Saint Anne, in the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the vestry of the said parish may be dissolved, and an act passed to elect a new one.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Mary Ready, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that her husband, Isaac Ready, was a soldier at the battle of Guilford, in which he received a mortal wound, and has left the petitioner with five small children in distress, to discharge a debt incurred by an attempt to cure his wound; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the establishment of a circulating medium, founded on a

basis, which would ensure it credit and stability, would be one great means of extricating the Commonwealth from the difficulties which impend.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the present just and necessary war, commenced and prosecuted for the common benefit, should be a common burthen; that the partial payment of the taxes by one part of our country, has given great and just cause of discontent, and may, if continued, end in the dissolution of society, the laws of which, would then seem calculated, for the protection of the bad and punishment of the good citizen.

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That a just and reasonable compensation for taxes and impositions, due from the delinquent counties, being made, would tend much to restore the full confidence of the people, and to preserve the republic in union and harmony.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the ordinance of Convention, affixing the meeting of the General Assembly, on the first Monday in May, annually, ought to be amended.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Mercer, Richard Henry Lee, Henderson, Ronald, Cabell, Prentiss, John Page of Caroline, Arthur Lee, Skipwith, Thruston and Ross, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the second and third resolutions; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Richard Lee, Edmondson, Richard Henry Lee, Southall, Thomas Walker, Payne, Matthews, Arthur Lee, Randolph and Prentiss, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the fourth resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Gilchrist, Goodall, Strother, Littleberry Mosby, Robert Wormeley Carter, Rose, Carter Henry Harrison, Smith, Talbot, Marshall, John Carter, and Towles, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That no petitions be presented or received in this House after Saturday, the 23d instant.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 14, 1782.

A bill, "to continue the act, entitled, 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States and of their Allies, with grain and flour,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the judges of the General Court, to superintend and regulate the public jail,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill, "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy, within this Commonwealth,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, a memorial and petition to them referred; and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the memorial in behalf of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That sufficient funds ought to be established and appropriated for paying annually, the interest due upon the certificates issued to the said officers and soldiers for pay and depreciation.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said officers and soldiers ought to be permitted to pay their said certificates to the sheriffs or collectors in discharge of the amount of the public taxes on the property of every such officer and soldier.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of an act of Assembly as allots a certain tract of country to the said officers and soldiers; ought to be amended.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Wright, praying to be admitted to the rights of citizenship; be rejected.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "to vest certain lands in William Robinson, in fee;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.



Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "concerning John McLean;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed that Mr. Francis Goode, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; and Mr. John Cunningham, one of the members for the county of Augusta; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on Tuesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Francis Goode and John Cunningham be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth;

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Maury, praying that compensation may be made him for a vessel and cargo, consisting of one hundred and seventeen thousand and sixty-nine pounds of crop tobacco, which were captured by the enemy; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Benjamin Harrison, praying to be relieved against the exorbitant and unequal valuation of his lands, made by the commissioners under the act, "for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and establishing a permanent revenue;" be rejected.

The first resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The second resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made,

*Ordered* To be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Arthur Lee reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had farther examined what laws have lately expired, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officer's fees, and other purposes therein mentioned, in the 19th year of the reign of George II.;" which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and has expired; ought to be revived and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed at the last session, entitled "an act, for dissolving the vestries of the parishes of Antrim and Westover," ought to be revived and amended; it appearing to the committee, that the periods limited by the said act, for electing new vestries have elapsed, without such elections being made.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired, to cause a state of all the proceedings of the Executive under the revenue law; and also, a state of the returns made by the commissioners under the act, "for laying taxes in certain enumerated commodities;" to be laid before this House, with an account of the disposal of the money arising from the sales of the said commodities.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That three certificates, amounting to the sum of eight hundred and thirty-four pounds, the property of Col. William Heth and Lieut. John Heth, having been by mistake of the late State agent, Mr. Ross, delivered to Col. William Davies and by him paid into the treasury, be returned by the treasurer to Col. Wm. Heth, on receipt of other certificates of the same kind and amount.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Towles and Randolph, be added to the committee for Religion; Mr. Hutchings, to the committee of Trade; Messrs. Du-Val and Strother, to the committee appointed to bring in a bill, "for a compensation for taxes from delinquent counties;" and Messrs. Thomas Walker and Gilchrist, to the committee appointed to bring in a bill, "for the establishment of a circulating medium."

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the delegates of this State in Congress, with the proceedings of Congress on a cession of lands made by the State of New-York; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Solicitor General, respecting the progress made in stating the account of the Commonwealth against the United States; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine and report the state and progress made by the Solicitor General, in the settlement of the account of this State against the United States.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Ronald, Henderson, Mercer, Cabell and Kee.

A report made by commissioners appointed by the court of Elizabeth City county, agreeable to a resolution of the General Assembly, of the day of last, of the valuation of a brigantine, late the property of Captain John Harris, was presented to the House, and read.

*Ordered*, That the said report be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the treasurer do lay his accounts before the House.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year from the 30th day of this instant; and also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of John Banister, Esq. who hath resigned.

A petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the borough of Norfolk, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the public buildings in the said borough, which were erected at the expense of the same, and afterwards destroyed by order of Convention, were valued at 1,480*l.* specie, and a Loan Office certificate therefor granted to the said corporation; that they are unable to lay additional taxes to rebuild the same; and praying that the land tax arising in the said borough, may be by law appropriated to that use, or that the said sum may be paid them by the public, for the same purpose.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that it will be of general utility to the petitioners, to remove the suspension of the act, "for opening a wagon road from the savanna in the Great Levels of the said county, to the Warm Springs;" and praying that the said suspension may be removed.

Also, a petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the borough of Norfolk; setting forth, that the report of commissioners under an act of Assembly, "to lay off and regulate the streets of the said borough," has not yet been confirmed; and praying that the said report may be adopted, with an alteration in the length and width of Church-street.

Also, a petition of Walker Tomlin; setting forth, that the main road in the county of King William, to the late bridge across Pamunkey river in the town of New Castle, runs through the lands of the petitioner, from whence a ferry is kept to the land of Nicholas Syme, wholly to the emolument of others, and greatly to the loss and injury of the petitioner; and praying that he may be permitted to keep a ferry, or build a bridge across the said river, and exact a toll for passing the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Leroy Peachey, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being county lieutenant of Richmond, he has been obliged in discharge of his duty to receive and disburse considerable sums of paper money, his accounts and vouchers for which, have been refused by the auditors, unless the petitioner would agree to settle by the scale of depreciation, which he conceives would in many instances be unjust; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thadey Kelly; setting forth, that his accounts as an officer in the service of this State, remain unsettled; and the auditors will not proceed thereto, although he has procured every necessary voucher, until the rising of the present session of Assembly; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Shipwash; setting forth, that her husband William Shipwash, was a soldier under Col. Parker at the Great Bridge, and was killed in a skirmish with the enemy, leaving the petitioner with three small children in great distress; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Henry Pendleton; setting forth, that he did, for a valuable consideration, become possessed of a certificate for military service, bearing date the 7th of March, 1782, for the sum of 81*l.* payable in January, 1785, which he has since lost; and praying that the auditors may be empowered to grant him another certificate of like tenor and date.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive it unjust and unequal, to be called upon for full proportions of men and money, at a time when sundry counties are delinquent in both; and praying that such delinquencies may be made good, and that they may not be again called upon until the same are enforced.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill, "requiring compensation from delinquent counties;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



FRIDAY, November 15, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Charles Broadwater, one of the members for the county of Fairfax, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Tuesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Charles Broadwater be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Adam Stephen be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to continue the act entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to continue the act entitled 'an act, to empower the judges of the General Court, to superintend and regulate the public jail,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to empower the judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Governor and Council to supply the armies and navies of the United States and of their Allies, with grain and flour,'" was read the first time, and the blanks therein filled up; and on the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill "concerning John M'Lean;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill "to vest certain lands in William Robinson, in fee;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Mosby, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a return of military stores; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the acts of Assembly, "for raising two legions for the defence of the State, under the command of Gen. Spotswood," ought to be repealed; and that the Governor and Council be empowered to vest money in the hands of diligent persons for the purpose of recruiting the men already enlisted under the said acts, to re-enlist in the continental army for three years, or during the war, taking security from all recruiting officers for money put into their hands.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That laws ought to pass, prohibiting persons under any authority, but such as shall be prescribed thereby, going on board any vessel belonging to the King of Great Britain, or of any of his subjects; and for that purpose, pecuniary or other punishments, ought to be inflicted.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act, "for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land," ought to be amended; and that the suspension of the operation of the said act, be immediately taken off.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Richard Henry Lee, Ronald, Mercer, Carter Henry Harrison, Prentiss, Meade, Tazewell and Bernard Moore, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Francis Goode, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next.

A petition of James Lamb, Joshua Hopkins and John Caton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the resolution of pardon granted them by this House, for the crime of treason, has been adjudged invalid



by the Court of Appeals, that it would highly aggravate the pains of death to themselves, and add misery to their unfortunate families, to know that they suffered at a time, when the said resolution of pardon by the House of Delegates, remained of record, and upon the validity of which, great contrariety of opinion had arisen among the best and wisest men of their country, even of some of those judges individually, whose collective voice has declared its invalidity; and praying that they may now receive the pardon of the General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, November 16, 1782.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Zachariah Johnston, a member for the county of Augusta; Thomas Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Thomas Anderson, a member for the county of Buckingham; Robert Bolling, a member for the county of Dinwiddie; John Shelton, a member for the county of Goochland; George Clendinnen, a member for the county of Greenbrier; Edmund Wilkins and James Mason, members for the county of Greensville; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry, a member for the county of Henry; Nathaniel Barwell and William Norvell, members for the county of James City; Josiah Parker and John Scasbrook Wells, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson, a member for the county of King William; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; Thomas Moore, a member for the county of Middlesex; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; William Dandridge, a member for the county of New Kent; John Bowdoin, a member for the county of Northampton; Benjamin Hayley, a member for the county of Orange; John Wilson and Constant Perkins, members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Ronald, a member for the county of Powhatan; John Holcombe, a member for the county of Prince Edward; Edmund Ruffin and Nathaniel Harrison, members for the county of Southampton; Mann Page, a member for the county of Spottsylvania; Richard Cocke, a member for the county of Surry; Michael Bailey, a member for the county of Sussex; and David Campbell, a member for the county of Washington.

An engrossed bill, "to vest certain lands in William Robinson, in fee;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act to vest certain lands in William Robinson, in fee."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Arthur Lee reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, inspected the Journal of the last session of Assembly, and drawn up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and had directed him to report the same, as it appeared to them, to the House, and he read the report in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that at the last session of Assembly, the petition of Benjamin Rnst and Anne Clements, praying that a ferry may be revived and established, from the land of the said Benjamin, in the county of Richmond, across Rappahannock river, to the land of the said Anne Clements, in the county of Essex.

Also, that a petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, praying that the same may be divided into two distinct counties, by the line dividing the parishes of Cameron and Shelburne.

Also, a petition of divers others inhabitants of the said county of Loudoun, in opposition thereto.

Also, that a petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, praying that the courthouse of the said county, may be removed to the town of Moorefield.

Also, that a petition of Miles Selden, praying compensation to be made him, for the injury done to his houses, whilst in the possession and use of the public.

Also, that a petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Louisa, praying that an act may pass, to check the destructive practice of gaming.

Also, that a petition of Peter Poythress, praying that the auditors of public accounts, may be directed to grant him specie warrants on the treasurer, for twenty thousand pounds paper money, being the sum which two slaves, the property of the petitioner, were valued by the court of Dinwiddie, previous to their execution.

Also, a petition of Thomas William Ballendine, executor of his father John Ballendine, deceased, praying that

the Assembly would adopt some mode by which the accounts, relative to the canal and Buckingham furnace, may be settled, and the balance ascertained, and a reasonable indulgence granted him for paying the balance due to the public; were severally presented to the House and read, and referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that the said committee reported, that they had come to a resolution thereupon, which was agreed to by the House, and is as followeth, viz:

That the consideration of the said petitions, be deferred till the then next session of Assembly.

That the petition of Alexander Kilpatrick, setting forth, that he was appointed jailor of the county of Augusta, in the year 1779, and continued until the month of November then last past, during which time he hath sustained great loss, by the insufficiency of the fees to support the prisoners; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Daniel Jones, setting forth, that during the last year, a manufacturing mill, together with a large mill-house and granary, the property of the petitioner, were impressed into the service of the public, for the purpose of manufacturing flour for the use of the army; that a party of the enemy at that time in this State, commanded by Colonel Tarleton, destroyed the said mill and houses; and praying to be paid for the same, by the public.

Also, that a petition of Isaac Ready, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound, which he received at the battle at Guilford courthouse, whilst in the service of this State.

Also, that a petition of John Meade, setting forth, that by a report from the Senate to the House of Delegates, respecting a claim of the petitioner's, which was presented to a former Assembly and allowed, and in which there was an error, whereby he is injured to a considerable amount, and praying relief.

Also, that a petition of Samuel Hunt, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound, which he received at the battle of the Waxsaws, whilst a soldier in the continental service.

Also, that a petition of the inspectors of tobacco, at Boyd's Hole, setting forth, that the warehouses at the said inspection have been twice broken open, without the default of the petitioners, and certain tobacco stolen thereout; and praying to be reimbursed by the public for the said loss.

Also, that a petition of Thomas Jett, setting forth, that being appointed by the Executive of this State, to purchase horses for the use of the army, he accordingly purchased a horse for public use, and transmitted to the auditors of public accounts, an account for his commission thereon, which they refused to allow; and praying relief.

Also, that a petition of John Vaughan, setting forth, that he was possessed of a valuable tenement in the town of Gloucester, which he was obliged to leave upon Lord Cornwallis's arrival at York Town; that during his absence his said house was taken and used as a public hospital, and whilst in that service was burnt; and praying that compensation may be made him by the public for his said loss.

Also, that a petition of John Blair, Esq., setting forth, that an arrearage of salary is due to him, as a judge of the High Court of Chancery, in paper money, prior to the late act of Assembly "for adjusting the said salaries in specie," and for which no provision is made by the said act; and praying that a remedy may be provided for this and like cases, were severally presented to the House and read and referred to the committee of Trade; that the said committee reported, that they had come to a resolution thereupon, which was agreed to by the House, and is as followeth, viz:

That the consideration of the said petitions be deferred till the then next session of Assembly.

It further appears to your committee, that a committee was appointed at the last session to examine the lead mine accounts, and that they made a report to the House, and came to the following resolution thereupon, which was agreed to.

*Resolved, as the opinion of this committee,* That the said accounts are in so complicated and confused a state, as not to admit of adjustment until further information on the subject can be obtained; and that they ought therefore to be referred to the next session of Assembly.

It also further appears to your committee, that the following resolutions were reported to the House from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, on the petition of Thomas Griffin Peachey, and that the same were read and ordered to lie on the clerk's table.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Griffin Peachey of the county of Amelia, praying that compensation may be made him by the public for three houses, which were taken by public commissioners and quartermasters, for the purpose of depositing the stores removed thither from Petersburg, and also made use of by the commissary appointed to receive the specific tax in the said county, and burnt by the enemy; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the auditors of public accounts do allow the said Thomas Griffin Peachey, such a sum of money for the said houses as they may think just and right, and to issue a warrant upon the treasurer for payment thereof.

And it also further appears to your committee, that a committee was appointed at the last session to inquire into the state and possession of certain common lands in Northampton county, commonly called the Secretary's land; and that they came to the following report and resolution thereupon, which were read and ordered to lie on the clerk's table.

Your committee find that a certain tract of land containing 521 acres, situated on Cherrystone river, and surveyed on the 6th day of April, 1782, by John Harmanson, surveyor, legally appointed for the said county of Northampton, in consequence of a warrant from the Land Office, bearing date the 24th day of November 1781, has been



held from time immemorial by the secretaries of this State, whilst a colony of Great Britain, and known by the name of the Secretary's land.

Your committee further find that "an act, entitled 'an act, for raising a supply of money for public exigencies,'" passed in May, 1780, hath, amongst other things therein contained, appropriated the public lands on the Eastern shore as part of the funds for the redemption of certain bills of credit issued under the said act.

Your committee further find that the aforesaid 521 acres of land, was leased for a term of years by the honorable Thomas Nelson, Esq. secretary of this State, to a certain Littleton Eyre, Esq. now deceased; and the said land at present is in possession of the heirs of the said Littleton Eyre.

*Resolved, therefore, as the opinion of this committee,* That the title of the said lands being a matter cognizable in a court of law, the executive ought to direct the attorney general, to take such legal measures therein, as will most effectually secure the title of the State thereto.

*Ordered,* That the several petitions of Benjamin Rust and Anne Clements; of sundry inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, praying a division of the said county; of sundry other inhabitants of the said county in opposition thereto; of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hampshire; of M<sup>rs</sup> Selden; of sundry inhabitants of the county of Louisa; of Peter Poythress; of Thomas William Ballendine; and the report from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, on the petition of Thomas Griffin Peachey, in the said report mentioned, be severally referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered,* That the several petitions of Alexander Kilpatrick, Daniel Jones, Isaac Ready, John Meade, Samuel Hunt; the inspectors of tobacco at Boyd's Hole; Thomas Jett, John Vaughan and John Blair, Esquires, in the said report mentioned, be severally referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered,* That the report of the committee on the lead mine accounts; and also, of the committee appointed to inquire into the state and possession of certain common lands in Northampton county, commonly called the Secretary's land, in the said report mentioned, be severally referred to the consideration of the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "concerning John McLean;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered,* That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the auditors, enclosing a list of pensioners; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House being informed that Mr. William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said William Ronald be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions concerning Col. William Heth's certificates; and to proceed by joint ballot with this House, on Wednesday next, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year from the thirtieth day of this instant; and also of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of John Banister, Esq. who hath resigned. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the acts of Assembly for establishing a War Office, and giving powers to the commissioner of War, ought to be repealed; and that the Executive be empowered, if they see cause, to appoint an additional clerk with a salary of \_\_\_\_\_ per annum.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Mercer, and John Page of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of George Robertson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is sheriff and collector of taxes for the county of Chesterfield, and has been delayed in making his collection, by the justices of the county failing to make and return their lists of property in due time; whereby he has become subjected to a judgment of the General Court, for the balance of his collection, with damages and costs; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of the officers of Col. White's regiment, and Col. Posey's detachment, setting forth, that upon the evacuation of Savannah, they purchased a quantity of clothing for their own use, by permission of the General, under an engagement with the merchants there to pay for the same in tobacco to be delivered in Virginia, and to procure passports for the protection of the vessels to be sent for the said tobacco; that upon application to the Governor for such passports, he declares his want of power to grant the same; and praying relief.



Also, a petition of Edwin Gray; setting forth, that he is possessed of thirty acres of land, by purchase from the Nottoway Indians, which by the death of the trustees appointed by act of Assembly to convey the same, he has never received a title for; and praying that other trustees may be appointed to convey the same.

Also, a petition of William Gill; setting forth, that he is nearest of blood to John Brander, a British subject, whose estate has become escheated to the Commonwealth; and praying that an act may pass, to vest the monies arising from the sale of the said estate, in the petitioner.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Mary Hurt, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that her father John Hurt, deceased, placed a sum of money in the hands of John Boness, for the support of the petitioner, who made use of the same and joined the enemy, since which his estate has become escheated to the Commonwealth; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Nancy Tarpley; setting forth, that she is possessed of a Loan Office certificate, for money lent to the State, by her guardian, in the year 1777; that by an act of Assembly passed in the year 1778, directing the holders of such certificates to bring them in and take out others of a different tenor, she will be considerably injured in the value of the said certificate; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Alexander Stewart; setting forth, that he was taken a prisoner at the battle of Guilford; and lost two horses, two saddles and bridles, a cloak, a silver mounted sword and a pistol; and praying to be reimbursed for his said losses.

Also, a petition of William Milam; setting forth, that he together with Benjamin Milam and John Kennedy, being soldiers from the county of Bedford, were made prisoners at the battle of Guilford; that the two latter died in captivity; and praying that compensation may be made to him and the representatives of the said deceased soldiers, for their services and losses while in captivity.

Also, a petition of Thomas Milner; setting forth, that he leased the place called Milner's warehouses, in the county of Nansemond, to a certain Cummings, Warwick and Company, who afterwards joined the enemy, and their unexpired lease in the same became vested in the Commonwealth; and praying that the said lease may be vacated, and the rents due thereon, paid to the petitioner.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, November 18, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; and Mr. Taverner Beale, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Richard Cocke and Taverner Beale be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Shelton, one of the members for the county of Goochland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said John Shelton be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "concerning John McLean," was read the third time; and on the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes

63

Noes

17

On a motion made by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, seconded by Mr. Goodall,

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Thomas Walker, Hugh Rose, William Cabell, John Cunningham, John Talbot, Adam Stephen, Thomas Madison, Robert Adams, jun. William Brown, Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. William Green Munford, Henry Skipwith, French Sroother, George Wray, George Booker, John Edmondson, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, John Marshall, William Pickett, David Ross, George Thompson, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Shelton, John Payne, Nelson Anderson, jun. Peter Saunders, Bernard Moore, Edwin Conway, Francis Peyton, John Carter, William Du-Val, Henry Stokes, William Randolph, Samuel Dedman, Simon Frazer, Benjamin Wilson, Robert Sayers, John Watkins, Thomas Newton, jun. Thomas Matthews, John Hull, John Heath, Benjamin Porter, William Ronald, Littleberry Mosby, Arthur Lee, Robert Wormeley Carter, Taverner Beale, John Taylor, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, James Kee, Richard Cocke, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Joseph Prentiss, Henry Tazewell and John Hutchings.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Everard Meade, Frederick Maclin, William Suth, Joel Watkins, William Smith, Carter Henry Harrison, William Gatewood, James Reid, John Coleman, Parke Goodall, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Scasbrook Wells, William White, Kinchen Godwin, Thomas Walke and Arthur Campbell.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be "an act concerning John McLean."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the relation between the constituent and representative, renders it necessary that the former should be well informed of the conduct of the latter, in discharge of the important trust to him committed, to the end that the people may have it in their power to encourage the meritorious servants, and discountenance the undeserving;

*Resolved*, That it be a standing order of the House, that any member on his motion for that purpose, being seconded, shall have a right to have the yeas and nays taken, upon the determination of any question; that the names of those who vote in the negative or affirmative of the question, be entered on the Journals, with the name of him who calls for the yeas and nays; and that a copy of such Journal be given to any member requesting the same, attested by the clerk of the House.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed, to consider of and report a plan to the House, for the more speedy promulgation of the laws and Journals of the General Assembly.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Prentis, John Watkins and Marshall.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That a permanent body of disciplined citizens is the only natural and safe defence of any republic; and that the present militia laws now in force, are wholly inadequate to the purpose of such a military establishment, as will ensure this Commonwealth safety and prosperity.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the unequal strength of the different counties, will render it necessary to divide the Commonwealth into districts, of nearly equal size and force.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That a select militia, is the only system that will be found efficacious and formidable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the very dispersed situation of the inhabitants of this State, requires that there should be a considerable proportion of horse, as they alone are capable of collecting suddenly on an emergency, and afterwards of extending the influence of an army over a considerable tract of country; and that the different districts should furnish a certain proportion of trained cavalry.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That a small, but adequate number of artillery, will be found serviceable and necessary.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the select militia, ought to be furnished with a stand of arms to each man.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That a cheap uniform, of the manufacture of the country, to be provided by the men belonging to the select militia, would tend much to the disciplining of the men and encouragement of industry.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the militia ought to be paid per day, whilst in actual service, during the present war.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Prentis, Richard Henry Lee, Mercer, Thruston, Meade, Matthews, Cabell, Ronald, Marshall, Madison, Stephens, Arthur Lee, and Heath, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences, by reason of the great extent of their county; and praying that the same may be divided into two distinct counties, by certain boundaries therein expressed.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed, setting forth, that they have settled upon certain lands, heretofore held by grantees, and by the act "for establishing the Commonwealth's land office," were to have titles made for the same upon payment of the composition money in six months, otherwise the lands were to revert to the grantees; that the scarcity of money, has prevented them from paying the said composition money in the said term of six months; and praying that the further time of six months may be granted them for that purpose.

Also, a petition of Josias Clapham; setting forth, that a quantity of shoes belonging to the petitioner, were taken some time in the year 1781, by a continental officer, for the use of the army; that he has received no satisfaction for the same; and praying to be made payment.



Not  
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the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do ex-  
coof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.  
house adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 19, 1782.

A bill, "concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Friday next.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill, "giving further time to the freeholders and house-keepers of the parishes of Antrim and Westover, to elect new vestries;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the commissioners appointed to collect all documents and proofs necessary for establishing the right of this State to its western territory, or any one of them, be authorised and empowered to examine upon oath, the clerk and such members of the King's Council of Virginia, previous to the resolution, as are now living, concerning the instructions received from the King and Council relative to the said territory, and on such other matters as may serve to ascertain the title of this State to its western country.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing a Virginia circulating tobacco bank;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill, "to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the governor, enclosing a state of the proceedings of the executive under the revenue law, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and have come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Brown, late physician general in the army of the United States, who entered into the public service in quality of surgeon to the 2d Virginia regiment, praying that his pay and depreciation may be settled in the same manner with the other officers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, and that the bounty in lands may be extended to the petitioner; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the pay and depreciation account of the said William Brown, when settled, ought to be charged to the United States in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, praying that a road may be cleared from the Warm Springs to Ugley's creek, at the expense of the said county; and that another road from Ugley's creek to the savanna, may be cleared at the expense of the people residing on the north side of Greenbrier river, on Howard's and Anthony's creeks; is reasonable.

The 1st and 2d resolutions were read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the third resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be ballotted for as Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for one year; and also, of a member of the Privy Council, or Council of State.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry a list of the persons so nominated to the Senate.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the act of the General Assembly, declaring "what shall be treason," as vests the power of pardon for such offences in the General Assembly is unconstitutional, and ought to be amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That a more equal assessment of lands within this Commonwealth, ought to be made; and that the act, "for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue," be amended.



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act, "for appropriating the public revenue;" and also the act, "for the redemption of certain certificates," ought to be amended.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the several acts of Assembly, "for establishing an auditor's office," ought to be amended; and that one auditor will be sufficient to discharge the public business of that department.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to first resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Stith, Munford and Edmondson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the second resolution; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Richard Henry Lee, Henderson, Strother, Robert Wormeley Carter, Arthur Lee, Cabell, Arthur Campbell, Thomas Walker, Newton and Talbot, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the third resolution; and that Messrs. Thruston, John Watkins, Rose, Edmondson, Gilchrist, Mercer, Marshall, Bowyer and Newton, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the fourth resolution; and that Messrs. Richard Lee, Kee, Porter, Goodall, Booker, Matthews, Coleman, Thomas Smith, Lyne, Henderson and Talbot, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Peachey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth,'" "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Judges of the General Court, to superintend and regulate the public jail,'" "to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth,'" and "to vest certain lands in William Robinson, in fee," with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they have added the name of Turner Southall, Esq. to the nomination of persons to be balloted for as a member of the Privy Council, or Council of State. And then he withdrew.

The House being informed that Mr. Benjamin Wilson, one of the members for the county of Monongalia, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered,* That the said Benjamin Wilson, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Thomas Walker, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "concerning the militia."

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That a select committee be appointed to inquire into abuses supposed to have been committed under the allowance granted by the last Assembly to load 685 hogsheads of tobacco on board certain British vessels, in consequence of a resolve of Congress for that purpose; and that the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records for their information; and that they make report to the House concerning the premises.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henderson, Saunders, Du-Val, Prentis, Coleman, Cabell and Matthews.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the accounts for the expense of messengers to take into custody the absent members, be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Younghusband, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he left Great Britain in the year 1776, and came to New York with his wife and family, designing to settle in Virginia, in the neighborhood of his brother; that soon after the capture of Charlestown he went thither for his health, and fell into the power of General Greene, who permitted him to come to this State and solicit admission as a citizen; that upon application to the Executive he is deemed a prisoner upon parole, and ordered to return to New York, with his wife and family, whom he had lately brought here; and praying to be admitted to the rights of citizenship, in like manner with other citizens.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that it will be of general utility to the petitioners to establish a town at the courthouse in the said county; and praying that forty acres of land may be laid off by an act, for that purpose.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Amand Vaglusan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is a native of Guadaloupe, and captain of a troop of cavalry in the service of this State; that his presence being no longer necessary with his company, he has obtained permission to return to his native country to settle his private affairs; and praying that his arrears of wages may be paid, to enable him to discharge debts incurred in the service.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, November 20, 1782.

A bill, "for giving further time to the freeholders and housekeepers of the parishes of Antrim and Westover;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for establishing a Virginia circulating tobacco bank;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thadey Kelly; setting forth, that in the month of October in the year 1779, he was appointed to the command of a company in the garrison regiment of this State; that there are considerable arrearages of pay and clothing due him, for a settlement of which he has procured the necessary vouchers, and waited on the auditors of public accounts, who informed him that his accounts cannot be settled till the rising of the present session of Assembly; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts, ought forthwith to liquidate the petitioner's accounts, and that his pay ought to commence from the date of his commission.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Smith, setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the continental service, and at the battle of Guilford courthouse had the misfortune to receive a ball through one of his thighs, which broke it; that he was carried to the house of Walter M. Question, where he remained eight or nine months before he could travel, that his account for board and attendance whilst there amounted to 25l. which he has paid; and praying to be reimbursed the same, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid the said sum of 25l. to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Elizabeth Shipwash; setting forth, that her husband William Shipwash, being one of the militia of this State, was ordered into service, and accordingly joined the army near the Great Bridge under the command of Col. Parker; that he was detached with a party to collect cattle for the army, in the execution of which business he was killed by the enemy; that she is left with three small children in very distressed circumstances; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half the pay of a soldier during life.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Milner; setting forth, that in the year 1772, he leased to a company of Scotch merchants, known by the firm of Cummings, Warwick & Co., the warehouses &c. called Milner's, in the county of Nansemond; that the said company have left this country and joined the enemy; in consequence of which, their unexpired term in the said lease has become vested in the Commonwealth, and the escheator of the said county of Nansemond has rented the same out; and praying that he may receive the rents of the said houses since they become vested in the Commonwealth, is reasonable; and that the same ought to be paid the petitioner.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Henry Pendleton; setting forth, that in the month of March last, he purchased from Benjamin Shurld, a serjeant of artillery, an auditor's certificate for his services, dated the 7th of March, 1782, amounting to 81l; that he has by accident lost the said certificate; and praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed and empowered to remedy his said loss, by granting him another certificate, similar to that lost; is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have no person to add to the nomination for a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made, *AYES 25*

*Ordered,* That the standing order of this House, which directs that in all future elections to be made by joint ballot of both Houses, it be a standing rule that no ballot be counted unless the person named therein shall have been previously and openly proposed in the one or the other House, and that before the Houses proceed to ballot they acquaint each other by message with the names of the persons proposed in their respective Houses, be rescinded.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for the ensuing year; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Cabell, Richard Lee and Gilchrist, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley.



The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Cabell, Richard Lee, and Gilchrist, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of John Marshall, Esq.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, do inquire into the subject matter of a letter, said to have been written by Arthur Lee, Esq. a delegate of this State in Congress, to Manu Page, Esq. a member of this House, containing matter injurious to the public interests; and that the said committee do call for persons and papers, for their information.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill, "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, respecting the commissioner of the War Office;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" and that Messrs. Edmondson and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the report of the commissioners, appointed by the court of Elizabeth City county, agreeable to a resolution of the last session, for the purpose of ascertaining the value of a brigantine, late the property of Captain John Harris, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the allowance made by the commissioners, appointed by the said county court of Elizabeth City, for ascertaining the value of a brigantine, late the property of Captain John Harris, which was taken from him by Captain Richard Barron, in the year 1775; the sails and anchors of which, were sold by order of the then committee of Safety, for the payment of the seamen's wages, and together with the said brigantine, were entirely lost to the said captain John Harris, amounting to seven hundred and fifty pounds, is reasonable; and that the same ought to be allowed and paid by the public.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Goodall, Joel Watkins, and Prentis, be added to the committee for Religion; and Messrs. Booker, and Richard Cocke, to the committee of Trade.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" and that Messrs. Henderson, Du-Val and Marshall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the letter from Cyrus Griffin, Esq. respecting an allowance made him by the Assembly, in December session 1781, for his services whilst a delegate of this State in Congress, which was ordered to lie on the table, be referred to the committee of Trade.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to examine the books and papers of the commercial agent, and to report the situation of the same to the House, with an estimate of the debts due in that department, discriminating such as ought to be paid under the act "for appropriating the public revenue," from those that ought to be delayed till the finances of the State are in a situation to discharge the same.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Prentis, Henderson, Ronald, Tazewell, Gilchrist, John Watkins, Matthews, Newton, Richard Lee, Thomas Smith, Lyne and Marshall.

A petition of Thomas Wyatt, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was a soldier in the battle of Guilford, and received a wound, which has disabled him from labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Stephen Terry; setting forth, that he received a wound while a soldier in the service of this State, at the battle of Brandywine, which has disabled him from labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Richard Taylor; setting forth, that he commanded the ship Tartar, in the service of this State, and in an engagement with an enemy's privateer, received a dangerous wound in the thigh; that upon the reduction of the navy, he conceived himself entitled to half pay for life, but from an omission in the law as he supposes, it extends only to officers in the land service; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Henry Armistead; setting forth, that he purchased of one Robert Scott, for full value, an auditor's warrant on the treasury for 4,760*l*. 14*s*. which he has since lost, having never sold or assigned the same, and that payment thereof having been stopped at the treasury; and praying that the auditors may be authorised to grant him another warrant of the same tenor.

Also, a petition of Gideon Spencer, on behalf of himself and a company of militia, who served under his command at the siege of York; setting forth, that the pay of the said company, hath been liquidated by the auditors in paper money; and praying that the certificates granted for the same may be exchanged, and specie certificates granted in lieu thereof.

Also, a petition of William McKee; setting forth, that being sheriff of Rockbridge county, he hath incurred considerable expense in maintaining Benjamin Smith, a lunatic in the said county, who hath been committed to his



care, as also in conveying him to the public hospital and back, the directors having refused to receive him; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the justices of Bedford county court, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have ordered the courthouse of the said county, to be erected at a place near the centre of the county, and on land given for the use of the county, which, from its situation, is very convenient for a town; and praying that a town may be established there, by act of Assembly.

Also, divers petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Brunswick, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences, by reason of the great extent of their county, and of the river Meherrin running nearly through the centre thereof; and praying that the said county may be divided into two distinct counties, agreeable to the course of the said river.

Also, a petition of Nelson Anderson the elder, Daniel Trueheart and Zachariah Clarke; setting forth, that in the month of June, 1780, they lent a quantity of tobacco to the State, upon an assurance of the Assembly, to repay the same on or before the month of April, 1781; that they yet see no provision made to that effect; and praying that funds may be established to pay the interest, or to discharge the principal.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 21, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "for giving further time to the freeholders and housekeepers of the parishes of Antrim and Westover, to elect new vestries," was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for giving further time to the freeholders and housekeepers of the parishes of Antrim and Westover, to elect new vestries."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, respecting the commissioner of the War Office," was read the second time; and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration sundry petitions to them referred, and have agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the testimony of Matthew Pleasants, witness on the petition of John Younghusband, that in the month of May, 1778, he was on a voyage to France, and was captured by the enemy, and carried to New York; that the morning after his arrival, the deponent desired the prize-master, who was going into the town, if he saw any of his acquaintances there, to inform them where he was, and his situation; that the second morning, the petitioner, John Younghusband, came with others to see the deponent, and after making himself known, and inquiring about his brother in Virginia, asked the deponent of his situation, and invited him to his house; that the deponent during his captivity resided with the petitioner, who offered to furnish him with any thing he might want, and did lend him a sum of money, and in other respects treated him in a very friendly manner; that the petitioner expressed the warmest attachment to the cause of America, and his intention of settling in Virginia, whenever he could accomplish it, and desired the deponent to request his brother to purchase him a place.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Younghusband, praying that he may be permitted to take the oath of allegiance to this Commonwealth, and to reside therein as a citizen; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Brigadier General Daniel Morgan, praying to be paid for sundry articles furnished Captain Gill's troop of light dragoons, is reasonable; and that he be allowed and paid the sum of 63*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.* for the same.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Monongalia, praying that the collection of the taxes imposed by the act, "for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and establishing a permanent revenue," may be suspended as to the said county; is reasonable.

The first and second resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The third resolution was read a second time, and ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the second resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House being informed that Mr. William Norvell, one of the members for the county of James City, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Norvell be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal so much of an act of the General Assembly, declaring what shall be treason, as vests the power of pardon for such offences in the General Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of a petition, as respects Albrington Holland and Levi Moore, who are under sentence of death, on a charge of treason against the State, praying to be pardoned for the said offences, is reasonable; and that the said Albrington Holland and Levi Moore, ought to receive pardon for the same, upon condition of serving as soldiers in the continental army, during the war.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the said petition, as respects John Holland, Demsey Butler and Henry Norfleet; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Benjamin Harrison, praying to be relieved from the unequal assessment of his lands; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the assessment of the lands of the said Benjamin Harrison, ought to be referred to the commissioners of the county of Prince George, for their re-consideration.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the third and fourth resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution: ~~Resolved~~ *Resolved*

Whereas, the constitution doth expressly direct, that the Governor or Chief Magistrate, the Privy Council or Council of State, the delegates to Congress, the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals and General Court, Judges in Chancery, Judges of Admiralty, Secretary and Attorney General, shall be chosen by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly; and whereas, by a resolve passed on the 28th day of October, 1776, it is declared "that in all future elections to be made by joint ballot of both Houses, it be a standing rule, that no ballot be counted unless the persons named therein shall have been previously and openly proposed in the one or the other House, and that before the Houses proceed to ballot, they acquaint each other by message, with the names of the persons proposed in their respective Houses;" from whence hath flowed a practice of appointing the said great officers of government and judges, by a resolve of both Houses, without a previous ballot, in cases where but one person hath been put in nomination in both Houses; and as such a manner of appointing officers of government and judges, is an express violation of the letter of the constitution; and the said resolve, inasmuch as it directs a previous nomination of persons in either House, is contravening the spirit of the constitution, by destroying that perfect freedom and confidence, which can alone constitute free and independent elections;

*It is resolved*, That henceforth the said resolve shall be repealed and utterly made void; and that in future the election of Governor or Supreme Magistrate, members of the Privy Council, delegates to Congress, the Judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals, Judges of Chancery and of the General Court, Judges of Admiralty, Secretary and the Attorney General, shall in all cases be made by joint ballot of both Houses, without the necessity of any previous nomination in either House.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. *Resolved*

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Frederick Maclin and others, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that an order of Council was many years ago granted to the said Frederick Maclin and others, to take up one hundred thousand acres of land on the eastern waters, in the then county of Pittsylvania; that the said company surveyed fifty-four thousand acres or thereabouts, within the time limited in the said order, but from unavoidable causes were prevented from surveying the whole order of Council; that the said company purchased rights for, and in due time paid all the necessary charges for the said fifty-four thousand acres; that the said order of Council hath been laid before the Court of Appeals as directed by law: but before any determination was made thereupon, all the papers and proofs respecting the said claim were destroyed by the enemy.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Frederick Maclin and others; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Frederick Maclin and others, concerned in the said order of Council, upon returning into the register's office a survey of the said fifty-four thousand acres of land,



and paying the accustomed fees, ought to obtain a patent for the same, saving the right of any person to enter a caveat against such patent.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “concerning John M’Lean;” also, to the resolution empowering the commissioners for stating the title of this State to its western territory, to examine witnesses. And then he withdrew.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Bolling, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Bolling be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill “concerning the two legions raised by this State;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a petition and memorial to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Amand Vogluson, setting forth, that previous to the commencement of the present war he was an inhabitant of Guadaloupe; that so early in the contest as January, 1777, he came to this State, and entered into the American army as a lieutenant of artillery; that some time after, he was appointed to the command of a company of light dragoons, belonging to the corps formerly commanded by Major John Nelson, in which service he has faithfully discharged the duties of his office; that the situation of his private affairs urges a return to his native country, to do which he has solicited and obtained permission; that for his support he has been obliged to contract debts to a considerable amount; for the payment of which he has no alternative, but with the certificates which have been granted him for his services; and praying that the treasurer may be directed to pay him the amount of his certificates, in order that he may be enabled to discharge the debts which he has necessarily contracted, whilst in the service of this State and the United States; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of Capt. Richard Taylor, setting forth, that early in the present war, he entered into the service of this State, in the marine department, and continued therein till the latter end of the year 1778, when in an engagement with a British privateer, he received a dangerous wound in his thigh, under which he languished in painful and expensive confinement for several years; that agreeable to an act of Assembly passed in May, 1779, “concerning officers, soldiers, sailors and marines,” he considered himself entitled to half pay for life; but upon a late application to the auditors of public accounts, he had the mortification to discover that the half pay provision was restrained to officers in the land service; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half pay during life, to commence from the fifth day of November, 1781.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the towns of Petersburg, Blandford and Pocahontas, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the increase of residents in the said towns, as well their commerce and vicinity to each other, render a charter of incorporation, and the establishment of a good police, necessary for the security and benefit of the inhabitants; and praying that the said towns may be incorporated in one charter, by the name of Petersburg.

Also, a petition of Josiah Riddick; setting forth, that in General Matthews’s invasion, he entered into the service, was captured, and sent to New York, where he suffered a long and painful imprisonment; that a gratuity was voted by a former Assembly, of five thousand pounds of tobacco, to your petitioner, and others in his predicament, which he has never received; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Cox; setting forth, that the act of the last session “for establishing a town at the court-house of Buckingham,” excludes the houses and enclosures of the petitioner, and leaves them without the town; that he conceives it would be of public benefit to include them; and praying that the said act may be amended.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fluvanna, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that application hath been made to the court of the said county, for leave to build a mill on Hardware river,



which would be of general public utility, but the court doubting their power to grant the same, have refused such leave; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Barrett, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is a captain of dragoons, was wounded, and taken prisoner at the battle of Guilford, and lost two valuable horses; that his wound was dangerous, and has produced great expense in its cure; and praying that he may be paid the value of his two horses, to enable him again to take the field.

Also, a petition of Mills Wilkinson; setting forth, that in the year 1776, he had a negro slave named Cuffee, taken by the troops of this State, and by order of the committee of Safety, sent to the lead mines, where he has remained ever since, the petitioner not having received any hire for his services; and praying that the said slave may be returned, and the hire paid him.

Also, a petition of Joel Molum; setting forth, that he was employed by Mr. James Maxwell, and Commodore Barron, to do the iron work of the ship Virginia, which was destroyed in General Matthews's invasion; that he has faithfully performed the work, and never received any recompense for the same; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, November 22, 1782.

A bill, "to repeal so much of an act of General Assembly, 'declaring what shall be treason,' as vests the power of pardon, for such offences in the General Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "concerning the two legions, raised by this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Edmundson presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico county, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases;" and that Messrs. Southall and Wilkinson, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Thruston reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and had come to the following resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry freeholders and housekeepers of the parish of St. Anne, in the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that the vestry of the said county may be dissolved, and that an act may pass for electing a new one; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such parts of the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amelia, whose names are thereunto subscribed, as pray that so much of the act, "declaring what shall be a lawful marriage," as prohibits the dissenting ministers of the gospel, duly authorised and licensed in each county, from performing the rites of matrimony, except in the county where they are respectively licensed," may be repealed; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that so much of the said act, "declaring what shall be a lawful marriage," as limits the number of dissenting ministers to be licensed in each county, may also be repealed; be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first and second resolutions; and that the committee for Religion do prepare and bring in the same.

The third resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico county, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Henderson and Ronald, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in bills "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue;" and also, "to amend the act, 'for the redemption of certain certificates;" and Messrs. Arthur Lee and Richard Henry Lee, to the committee appointed to examine the commercial agent's account.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page of Caroline, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Tuesday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing James Smith and John Harris, certain sums of money; and for allowing Elizabeth Shipwash, the half pay of a soldier, during life. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for giving further time to the freeholders and housekeepers of the parishes of Antrim and Westover, to elect new vestries;" also, to the resolutions to refer the assessment of Benjamin Harrison's land to the commissioners of Prince George county; for paying Thomas Milner the rent of his warehouses; and directing the auditors of public accounts, to grant a certificate to Henry Pendleton. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for clearing wagon roads, in the county of Greenbrier;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to vest the Capitol Square and the houses thereon erected, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the city of Williamsburg, for certain purposes, for a limited time;" and that Messrs. Tazewell, Thruston, Richard Henry Lee, Carter Henry Harrison, and Newton, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House being informed that Mr. Edmund Ruffin, one of the members for the county of Prince George, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Edmund Ruffin be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Solicitor be, and he is hereby empowered and directed, immediately to call upon the different clothiers, as well as commercial agent, acting respectively under authority of this State, to transmit without delay, a list of such sums as stand charged on their books, against the commissioned and staff officers of the Virginia lines on continental and State establishment, to the auditors of public accounts, to enable them finally to settle the accounts of the said officers.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for recovering the swords and other arms belonging to this State;" and that Messrs. Arthur Lee, Richard Henry Lee, and Cabell, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Charles Gratiot, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has made considerable advances for the supply of the troops of this State in the Illinois department; that he has travelled several thousand miles, and is now here to settle his claim, without means for support; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Harris; setting forth, that he holds a part of the tract of land heretofore called and considered as governor's land, in the county of James City, upon lease for the yearly rent of four barrels of Indian corn; that thirty-four years of his term are yet to come and unexpired; that in Lord Cornwallis's invasion the last year, his house was plundered, his desk and papers rifled, and the lease aforesaid taken or destroyed; that upon application to the Governor to renew the same, it having never been recorded, he has refused to do so for a longer term than two or three years; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the court of the said county have in contradiction to the act "for the division of the said county," fixed on a place five miles from the centre of the county, on which to erect the public buildings; and praying that an act may pass to fix the same at or near the centre.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.



An account of Messrs. Nicolson and Prentis, for printing services done for the Senate, was presented to the House, read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Louisa, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive the act "for liquidation of debts and contracts," is unequal and impolitic, oppressing debtors to the benefit of their creditors; that they wish some equitable mode for the adjustment of old debts may be established, and that from a scarcity of specie, they will, without some alternative is admitted, be unable to pay the specie tax of the revenue law; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of William Craton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being a soldier in the service of this State, he received a wound at the battle of the Waxsaws, which has disabled him from the use of one arm; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Barclay Cox, setting forth, that he was of the militia of Mecklenburg county, in the battle of Guilford, and received a wound, which occasioned the loss of his leg; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Daniel Tevebough; setting forth, that he marched with a company of militia, from the county of Hampshire, to the relief of Monongalia county, for which service the auditors have refused to grant a certificate for the pay of the said company; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Fowler; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he served as deputy clothier to this State, for which he has never received any pay or other allowance; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Buchanan; setting forth, that he rented two houses in the city of Richmond, for the use of the General Court, upon his own private credit; that such cases being without the purview of the appropriation law, he cannot obtain payment; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Paul Woolfolk; setting forth, that he acted as assistant to Mr. Thomas Smith, in stating the account of this Commonwealth against the United States, and received the auditors' warrant for his services, which the treasurer has refused to receive in payment of taxes, in like manner with other warrants, agreeable to the law of appropriation; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, November 23, 1782.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Booker have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday se'nnight; Mr. Thomas Walker, until Friday next; and Mr. Stith until Tuesday.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "for clearing wagon roads in the county of Greenbrier;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico county, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal so much of an act of General Assembly, 'declaring what shall be treason,' as vests the power of pardon for such offences in the General Assembly;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal so much of an act of General Assembly, 'declaring what shall be treason,' as vests the power of pardon for such offences, in the General Assembly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause, was offered to be added to the said bill by way of rider, to prevent collusive conveyances of property, by the officers and soldiers on the taxes of which, to pay the said certificates; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the bill, with the rider do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, to rescind a resolution, for a previous nomination between the two Houses, before a ballot; for allowing Richard Taylor half pay, during life; directing the treasurer



to pay Amand Vogtleuson, the amount of the certificates granted him as an officer in the service of this State; and for paying a sum of money to Briga ier General Daniel Morgan. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Thruston presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of St. Anne, in the county of Essex;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences, by reason of the great extent of their county; and praying that a part of the said county may be taken off, and added to a part of Henry county, the said two parts to be formed into one distinct county.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed; in opposition thereto.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fluvanna, whose names are thereunto subscribed; in opposition to a petition of sundry other inhabitants, of the said county; praying that a mill may be established on Hard-ware river.

Also, a petition of Thaddey Kelley; setting forth, that he cannot obtain the necessary orders from the commissioner of war for his proportion of land as an officer, owing to the dispersed situation of the officers under whom he has served; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Charles Lewis; setting forth, that he is proprietor of the land in the vicinity of Richmond, called Rocketts, which he is desirous should be laid off into lots and streets for a town; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of the trustees of Liberty Hall Academy, in the county of Rockbridge; setting forth, that they are possessed of land and other property, and conceive it would be of great advantage to the institution to incorporate the same; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of George Daniel, late sheriff of the county of Middlesex; setting forth, that he is greatly aggrieved by a judgment of the General Court, given against him for a balance due upon his collection, which he had been prevented from completing and making a settlement of, by sundry unavoidable accidents; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Haskins, sheriff of the county of Prince Edward; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Charles May, sheriff of the county of Buckingham; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Orange, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that an act may pass, to establish a town on the land of Thomas Davis, in the said county.

Also, a petition of Charles Dick; setting forth, that his salary as director of the public manufactory at Fredericksburg, has been omitted to be provided for in the appropriation law, so that he cannot obtain payment for the same; and praying reason.

Also, a petition of Thomas Edmondson; setting forth, that he is possessed of a lot of five acres of land adjoining the borough of Winchester, which he is desirous should be laid off into half acre lots and added to the said borough; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of the Corporation of the city of Richmond; setting forth, that they conceive it would greatly promote the interests of the said city to enlarge the powers given them, to establish the court of Hustings, a court of Record, and to authorise the Corporation to raise, by way of lottery, a sum sufficient to build a stone bridge over Shockoe creek; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Simon Morgan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he received an auditor's warrant for an advance of pay in the year 1781, the money for which never reached him until after his recovery from a dangerous wound received in the battle of Eutaw, when from its depreciation it could do him no possible service; and praying that he may be permitted to return the same.

Also, a petition of John Banks; setting forth, that he received several wounds whilst a soldier in the service of his country, which have disabled him from labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Hume; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Jacob Miller; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of James Hambleton; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Elias Toutant Beauregard; setting forth, that he is possessed of certain bills of exchange, drawn in his favor on the government of this State, for the payment of which no provision is made by law, and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Simon Nathan; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Henry Delony, setting forth, that while deputy commissioner for the county of Mecklenburg, he contracted with persons as drivers and to transport provisions to the army, for which he finds himself liable; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Allen; setting forth, that being deputy sheriff of the county of James City, in the year 1781, he secreted his collection, consisting of money and tobacco notes, together with the most valuable part of

his own property in the woods, to secure them from the enemy, the whole whereof fell into their hands; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Brown; setting forth, that being a drafted soldier from the county of Prince William, in the year 1780, he failed to procure the tobacco certificate granted as a bounty, which he cannot now obtain; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Buckner; setting forth, that being on service at York Town, in the year 1781, under the command of Baron Steuben, he was detached to carry despatches by water, and act as pilot to a fleet then in the Bay, supposed to be French; by which, it proving an enemy's, he was captured and sent to England, where he suffered a long and painful imprisonment, from which he is lately liberated; and praying to be made compensation for the time of his imprisonment.

Also, a petition of John Beckley; setting forth, that there is due to him, house rent for an office for the use of the High Court of Chancery, which he has paid out of his own pocket, and which since the passing the law of appropriation he cannot obtain re-payment of; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of David Gray; setting forth, that he was appointed by the county court of Rockbridge, commissioner to purchase a wagon and team agreeable to law, in consequence of which he made the purchase upon his own private credit, since when, the collection failed, and the paper money has been called in and funded, so that he remains without redress; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matters thereof and report the same with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Thomas Smith, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is unable to procure the payment of his salary as clerk to the Solicitor, no provision being made for the same in the appropriation law; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill, "to amend the act, for appropriating the public revenue."

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" "to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;" and "to amend the act, for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, November 25, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Isaac Zane be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for clearing a wagon road in the county of Greenbrier;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for clearing a wagon road from the Warm Springs to Greenbrier courthouse."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico county, and of the city of Richmond," in certain cases; was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico county, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of St. Anne, in the county of Essex;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, according to order, a bill, "for the recovery of arms and accoutrements belonging to this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration sundry petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Josiah Riddick, praying that the Executive may be directed to pay him five thousand weight of tobacco, which was voted him by the Assembly in May 1780; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, praying that forty acres of land, whereon the courthouse of the said county now stands, may be laid off into lots and streets, and establish a town; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Cox, praying that his buildings with the enclosures, may be included within the limits of the town at Buckingham courthouse, and disposed of by the trustees; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Edwin Gray, praying that persons may be appointed, who, with the surviving Indian Chiefs of the Nottoway tribe, may be authorised to execute a legal conveyance to the petitioner for thirty acres of land, which he purchased of the said Indians; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, praying that so much of an act of Assembly, entitled "an act, for settling and adjusting the titles of claims to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office," as compels persons claiming lands under grantees, to pay the composition money in six months, or that the lands shall revert to this Commonwealth, may be repealed; and such persons allowed to give bond and security to pay the composition money with interest, in six months; is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the first resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "to confirm the title of Frederick Maclin and others, to certain lands;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "concerning John Younghusband;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "concerning Albrington Holland and Levi Moore;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill, "for providing a select militia for the defence of the Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That a committee be appointed to prepare powers and instructions for the delegates of this State in Congress, to negotiate and exchange with the United States, the heavy brass cannon of this State, for brass field pieces and howitzers.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Arthur Lee, Richard Henry Lee, Thruston, Mercer, Ronald and Cabell.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Cabell, Lyne, Du-Val and Marshall, be added to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Friday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, "concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to indemnify certain persons for suppressing a conspiracy against this State;" and that Messrs. Talbot and Campbell, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to repeal the several acts of Assembly respecting the commissioner of the War Office;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the said report be received to-morrow.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a letter from the delegates of this State in Congress, and an abstract return from the commissioners of the War Office, of the deficiencies due from delinquent counties under former requisitions of men.

*Ordered,* That the said abstract return, be referred to the committee appointed to enquire of delinquencies of men, required under former laws.



*Ordered*, That the Governor's letter, with the other enclosure, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" and to amend the act, "for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 26, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Benjamin Hayley, one of the members for the county of Orange; and Mr. Michael Bailey, one of the members for the county of Sussex; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Saturday, the 16th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said Benjamin Hayley and Michael Bailey, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of St. Anne, in the county of Essex;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dissolving the vestry of the parish of St. Anne, in the county of Essex."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmundson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to prohibit persons going on board British vessels;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of British subjects into this State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for the recovery of arms and accoutrements belonging to this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to confirm the title of Frederick Maclin and others, to certain lands;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "concerning Albrigton Holland and Levi Moore;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "concerning John Younghusband;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to enlarge the town of Greenville, in the county of Buckingham;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to establish a town at the courthouse, in the county of Greenbrier;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Charles Carter, according to the order of the day, reported from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday, to the bill "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, respecting the commissioner of the War Office;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made,

That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for discouraging extensive credits, and to repeal the act, 'prescribing the method of proving book debts;' and the question being put thereupon,

It passed in the negative.

Ayes

40

Noes

41

*Resolved*, That the motion be rejected.

On a motion made by Mr. Tazewell, and seconded by Mr. Ronald,

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes be taken on the foregoing question.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Thomas Madison, Frederick Machin, William Smith, Robert Gilchrist, Francis Goode, Robert Bolling, William Watkins, George Wray, William Gatewood, John Marshall, William Pickett, George Thomson, Thomas Smith, John Payne, James Reid, Turner Southall, John Scasbrook Wells, Bernard Moore, William Du-Val, Henry Stokes, Samuel Dedman, Benjamin Wilson, John Watkins, Thomas Newton, Thomas Mathews, Benjamin Porter, Benjamin Hayley, William Ronald, Littleberry Mosby, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Walke, John Bowyer, Andrew Moore, Taverner Beale, John Taylor, Thomas Towles, Michael Bailey, Henry Tazewell and John Hutchings.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, William Cabell, John Cunningham, John Talbot, Robert Clarke, Adam Stephen, Robert Adams, jun. William Brown, William Green Munford, Joel Watkins, William Smith, Henry Skipwith, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, Charles Mynn Thruston, John Shelton, Edmund Wilkins, John Coleman, Nelson Anderson, William Norvell, George Lyne, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. Francis Peyton, John Carter, William White, William Randolph, Kinchen Godwin, John Hull, John Heath, James Allen, Arthur Lee, Robert Wormeley Carter, Isaac Zane, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, Richard Henry Lee and Arthur Campbell.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, “for clearing a wagon road from the Warm Springs to Greenbrier courthouse,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, “for the manumission of Liverpool, a negro slave, the property of James Suggett;” and that Messrs. Thompson, Cabell and Towles, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, “to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children;” and that Messrs. Thruston, Richard Henry Lee, and Mercer, do prepare and bring in the same.

An engrossed bill, “concerning Albrington Holland and Levi Moore;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, granting a conditional pardon to certain offenders.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be directed to settle immediately, the accounts of Capt. Amand Vogleson, to the present day, and to grant him a military certificate for the sum which shall appear to be due to him from this Commonwealth, and that the treasurer be directed to pay the same; and the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for establishing a Virginia circulating tobacco bank;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, “for providing a select militia, for the defence of the Commonwealth;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “concerning the two legions raised by this State;” and “to amend the act, ‘for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,’ being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o’clock.

WEDNESDAY, November 27, 1782.

An engrossed bill, “for the recovery of arms and accoutrements belonging to this State;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for the recovery of arms and accoutrements belonging to this State.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmondson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning John Younghusband," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning John Younghusband."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal the several acts of Assembly respecting the commissioner of the War Office;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal the several acts of Assembly respecting the commissioner of the War Office, and the commercial agent."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Louisa, praying that an act may pass, compelling persons convicted of gaming, to serve in the continental army for one year, or during the war; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the trustees of Liberty Hall Academy, praying an act of incorporation, to enable them and their successors, more effectually to encourage and promote literature, and that the professors, masters and students thereof, under the age of twenty-one years, may be exempted from militia drafts; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to enlarge the town of Greensville, in the county of Buckingham;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to establish a town at the courthouse, in the county of Greenbrier;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the third reading of the engrossed bill "for establishing a Virginia circulating tobacco bank," be put off till the first day of March next.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning the titles of settlers on land, surveyed for sundry companies;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the borough of Norfolk, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the said petition as prays that the inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk may be exempted from the general tax; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition as prays that the money arising from the land tax within the said borough, may be applied towards paying the debt due from the State to the Corporation, for public buildings, destroyed by order of the Convention; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue,'" do receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the second resolution.

The House being informed that Mr. John Holcombe, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Holcombe be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to establish a ferry from the lands of John Chowning, across Rappahannock;" and that Mr. Heath of Lancaster, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to notify to Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley, his appointment to be Governor of the Commonwealth for one year, from the thirtieth day of this month.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Charles Carter, Cabell and Mercer.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for providing a select body of militia, for the defence of the Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had



the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed that Mr. Constant Perkins, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; and Mr. George Clendinnen, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Tuesday the 12th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said Constant Perkins and George Clendinnen, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

X MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Saint Anne, in the county of Essex;" also, to the bill "for granting a conditional pardon to certain offenders, with several amendments," to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith,

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

4 MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the Solicitor to call upon the several clothiers and commercial agents, to transmit the officers accounts to the auditors of public accounts. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to prevent the application for private laws, before the same shall be published;" and that Messrs. Zane and Du-Val, do prepare and bring in the same.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for clearing a wagon road from the Warm Springs to Greenbrier courthouse;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Nancy Tarpley, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner under her father's will, became entitled to several sums of money, amounting to 568*l.* 11*s.* 9 1-2*d*; that on the 21st day of October 1777, the petitioner's guardians took out a Loan Office certificate for the sum of 568*l.* 12*s*; that agreeable to an act of Assembly, passed in October, 1778, the said certificate was taken in at the treasury on the 18th day of October 1779, and a new certificate issued in the said guardians' names and for the said last mentioned sum; that at the time the petitioner's money was put into the Loan Office, it was nearly equal to specie.

Whereupon your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Nancy Tarpley, praying that when the public finances shall be in a situation to discharge the debts due on loans, that she may receive from the public a sum equal to that which was put into the Loan Office by her guardians, in the year 1777; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That the said report be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Gideon Spencer, setting forth, that at the siege of York, the petitioner commanded a company of militia from the county of Charlotte; that previous to the passage of the act, "making provision for the payment of the militia, in specie," the petitioner settled a pay roll with the auditors of public accounts, and received certificates payable in paper money, as well for his own services as those of his said company, which remain unpaid; and praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed and empowered to grant the holders of the said certificates, specie certificates for their services in lieu of those issued; is reasonable.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Joel Mohun, setting forth, that in the year 1779, he was employed by Mr. James Maxwell and Commodore Barron, to make the necessary iron work for the ship Virginia, which was at that time building for the service of this State, and was destroyed in Gen. Matthews's invasion; that he accordingly performed the said work, amounting to 194*l.* 9*s.* 10 1-2*d*. for which he has received no satisfaction, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid the said sum of 194*l.* 9*s.* 10 1-2*d*.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Vaughan, setting forth, that he was possessed of a valuable house in the town of Gloucester, which he was obliged to leave upon Lord Cornwallis's

arrival at Yorktown; that during his absence, his said house was taken by general orders, and used as a public hospital, and whilst in that service was burnt, and praying relief; be rejected.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Barclay Cox, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, in consideration of the loss of one of his legs, at the battle of Guilford courthouse, whilst serving in the militia, ordered into Carolina from the county of Mecklenburg, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the full pay of a soldier, during life, to commence from the 15th day of March, 1781.

5. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Jacob Miller, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound, which he received at the battle of Guilford courthouse, whilst serving in the militia, ordered into Carolina from the county of Bedford, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the full pay of a soldier, during life, to commence from the 15th day of March, 1781.

6. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Smith, setting forth, that the Solicitor General has appointed him one of his clerks, to aid in stating the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States; that the petitioner is not mentioned in the appropriation law, and therefore cannot receive payment for his services, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner, whilst acting in his present capacity ought to be considered as appertaining to the civil list, and ought to be paid as such.

7. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Paul Woolfolk, setting forth, that he was employed as an assistant to Mr. Thomas Smith, who was formerly appointed to state and settle the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States; that for his services whilst engaged in that business, a warrant has been granted him by the auditors; but because he is not mentioned in the appropriation law, he cannot receive payment, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the warrant obtained by the petitioner for his said services, amounting to 100*l.* ought to be receivable in taxes, or paid by the treasurer out of the revenue appropriated for the civil list, if presented to him for that purpose.

8. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Beckley, setting forth, that at the instance of the judges of the High Court of Chancery, he has continued to provide an office, for the use of the said court, since the 1st day of April, 1781; and with a view to lessen the expense to the public, has appropriated one fourth part of the house, in which he lives to that purpose; a proportionate part of which rent, to be borne by the public, amounts to 25*l.* per annum, which he has paid; that no provision is made in the appropriation law for such cases, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be reimbursed by the public, their proportion of the rent of the said house, to be paid by the treasurer out of the fund appropriated for the civil list.

9. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Buchanan, setting forth, that he rented two houses in the city of Richmond, for the use of the clerk of the General Court, upon his own private credit; that the General Court at their last session, ordered the petitioner's account, amounting to 100*l.* to be certified for payment; that he accordingly applied to the treasurer, and was informed that no provision is made by the appropriation law for the payment of such debts, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be paid by the treasurer, the amount of his said account out of the fund appropriated for the civil list.

10. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Henry Armistead, setting forth, that some time in the year 1780, an auditor's warrant amounting to 4,760*l.* 14*s.* was granted to Robert Scott, late of Fredericksburg, for services done this Commonwealth; that the said Robert Scott being about to leave this State, the petitioner purchased the said warrant of him, and enclosed it in a letter to Col. William Peachey, which was lost by the bearer; that the petitioner has never assigned, sold, or received any compensation for the said warrant; and that the same has not been paid at the treasury, as appears by a certificate from the clerk thereof, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to grant the petitioner a warrant in the name of the said Robert Scott, in specie, agreeable to the scale of depreciation upon the above sum.

11. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Brown, setting forth, that in the year 1780, he was drafted from the militia of Prince William county, to serve in the continental service for the term of eighteen months; that he has faithfully served the said term of eighteen months, but has not received his tobacco certificate, to which he is entitled as a bounty; that after his discharge, he applied to the county lieutenant of the said county of Prince William, for his bounty, and was informed that he had returned it to the treasurer's office; that he has repeatedly applied to the auditors for redress, but was always refused, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to grant a warrant to the petitioner for a sum equal to the bounty, which he ought to have received at the time of his being drafted.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d, 4th, 5th, 10th and 11th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th resolutions be referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act 'for appropriating the public revenue.'"

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for granting a conditional pardon to certain offenders." And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the auditors of public accounts, do settle the accounts of Capt. Robert Porterfield, as executor to his late brother Col. Charles Porterfield, dec'd. with the public, and grant their warrant for the balance due upon such settlement; and that the treasurer do pay the same out of the contingent military fund.



And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "concerning surveyors;" and that Messrs. Tazewell, Marshall, and Arthur Campbell, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Dedman and Randolph, be added to the committee of Trade; and Mr. Arthur Lee to the committee for Religion.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" and "to amend the act 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,' being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till Friday morning, 11 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, November 29, 1782.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That Dempsey Butler and John Holland, who severally stand convicted of treason, by judgment of the General Court, at their session in October last, be, and each of them are hereby reprimed, and the execution of the said sentence shall be, and the same is hereby suspended, until the second Monday after the actual meeting of the next General Assembly; provided they, and each of them, do remain in jail until that period.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to establish a town at the courthouse, in the county of Greenbrier;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to establish a town at the courthouse, in the county of Greenbrier."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "concerning the titles of settlers on lands surveyed for sundry companies;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Thruston and Mercer.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White, be added to the committees appointed to bring in bills, "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties;" and "for establishing a permanent revenue;" and "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Bolling, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for granting a reprieve to Dempsey Butler and John Holland. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the Speaker be requested to present the thanks of this House to the Rev. Doctor Todd, for his instructive and patriotic discourse, delivered yesterday, on a thanksgiving to the Supreme Being, for the blessings he has been graciously pleased to vouchsafe upon the councils and arms of the United States.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay the Rev. Doctor Todd, the sum of fifty dollars as a gratuity from the General Assembly, for the sermon preached yesterday, at their request.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Richard Henry Lee, and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Arthur Lee reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill, "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses, and appointing receivers at Westham;" and that Messrs. Talbot, Saunders, Alexander White, Arthur Campbell, Payne, Strother and Adams, do prepare and bring in the same.



Mr. Talbot presented, according to order, a bill, "to indemnify certain persons in suppressing a conspiracy against this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Robert Porterfield, praying to be paid for two wagons and teams lost in the public service; ought to be referred to a Court of Claims.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Brown, praying that the auditors of public accounts, may be directed to grant him a certificate for one year and three months pay as a soldier, late in the continental service; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of George Robertson, sheriff of the county of Chesterfield, praying that an act may pass, to exonerate him from paying ten per cent. on the amount of a judgment obtained against him the last General Court for the balance of the public tax; be rejected.

The 1st and 2d resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The third resolution was read the second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the second resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee appointed to notify to Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley, his appointment to be Governor of this Commonwealth, for one year from the 30th of this instant, that the committee had, according to order, waited on that gentleman, and notified his appointment, and that he was pleased to return the following answer:

"GENTLEMEN,—I request the favor of you to signify to the General Assembly, the high sense I entertain of the honor they have done me in re-electing me to the Chief Magistracy of this great country; and to assure them it shall be my peculiar study to render the people, over whom they have been pleased to place me, happy. The highest gratification the human heart can feel, is the approbation of a true and independent people. I experience this in so great a degree, that I should be wanting in gratitude, to let slip any opportunity of promoting their welfare. Situated as we are at present, the task is arduous and difficult; but I doubt not the Assembly will so smooth the way by their wise and prudent regulations, as to enable me to discharge the duty expected from me, to the satisfaction of the people, and with some degree of honor to myself."

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Mary Hurt, setting forth, that her father John Hurt, in his life time, placed in the care of a certain John Boness, late of Portsmouth, a sum of money amounting to four hundred and eighty-six pounds fifteen shillings and five pence, equal in value to specie, and which was intended for the petitioner's support; that during the present war, the said John Boness has joined the enemy, leaving considerable property, which has been escheated and sold, and the money arising therefrom paid into the treasury, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to issue warrants in favor of the petitioner for the amount of her said debt, to be paid out of the monies arising from the sale of the estate of the said John Boness.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Willis Wilson, surviving partner of John and Willis Wilson, setting forth, that about the commencement of the present war, many of the merchants and other inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, by name, Messrs. Robert Shadden & Co. Messrs. Campbell & Gilchrist, Humphrey Roberts, Messrs. Robert and John Shadden, William and Thomas Farrar and John Goodrich, the elder, were indebted to the said co-partners; that they have since joined the enemy, leaving considerable property, which has been escheated and sold, and the money arising therefrom paid into the treasury, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to issue warrants in favor of the petitioner, for his debt against the said Messrs. Robert Shadden & Co. amounting to 66l. 15s. 4d.; also, against the said Messrs. Campbell & Gilchrist, for 35l. 15s. 8d.; also, against the said Humphrey Roberts, for 30l. 0s. 3 1-2d.; also, against the said Messrs. Robert and John Shadden, for 38l. 1s. 3d.; also, against the said William and Thomas Farrar, for 64l. 8s. 10d.; and also, against the said John Goodrich, the elder, for 18l. 12s.; to be paid out of the monies arising from the sale of their estates, respectively.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Mary Ready, setting forth, that her husband Isaac Ready, dec'd, served in the militia from the county of Bedford, which were ordered into Carolina in the year 1781, and at the battle at Guilford courthouse, had the misfortune to receive a dangerous wound, of which he is since dead; that he languished a considerable time under his said wound, and in endeavoring to effect a cure thereof, incurred a debt of thirty-seven pounds six shillings, which is still due, for attendance and medicine; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid the said sum of thirty-seven pounds six shillings.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Craton, setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the continental service, and was in Col. Buford's defeat to the southward, where he had the

misfortune to receive several wounds; that a partial allowance was made him by a former Assembly; and praying further relief; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Captain Simon Morgan, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he obtained an auditors' warrant for his proportion of the money to be advanced to the officers of the Virginia line, amounting to four thousand eight hundred pounds; that being obliged to join the southern army, he left his warrant with a friend in Richmond, to receive the money for him, who accordingly drew it from the treasury, and delivered it to Colonel Gaskins, who was on his way to join the same army; that before Colonel Gaskins could reach the army, the petitioner received a wound which occasioned him to be detached therefrom, so that he did not receive his said advanced pay till the month of June, in the present year; and praying that the treasurer may be directed to receive the said sum of four thousand eight hundred pounds, and that he may have credit on the auditors' books for the same; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Simon Nathan, setting forth, that in the year 1780, he had various dealings with the then Board of Trade, on behalf of this Commonwealth; who became indebted to him in the sum of fifteen thousand livres, for which a bill of exchange was drawn on Messrs. Pinet, Decosta, Freres & Co., merchants at Nantz and Bordeaux; that the said bill has been returned under regular protest to the petitioner, and that his said debt yet remains to be paid; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the said fifteen thousand livres ought to be paid to the petitioner, out of the fund appropriated for the commercial agent's department.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Daniel Tevebough, setting forth, that he received orders from the Executive of this State to march a company of the militia which he commanded in Hampshire county, to the aid of Monongalia county; that the said orders were punctually obeyed, for which services he waited on the auditors of public accounts to grant him certificates, which they refused to do, assigning for a reason, that his company did not join the army, and therefore are not entitled to pay; and praying relief, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William M'Kee, setting forth, that as sheriff of Rockbridge county, he received orders to convey a lunatic, by the name of Benjamin Smith, to the hospital in Williamsburg; that the said lunatic was committed to his care on the 5th day of February last, but for want of money could not carry him to Williamsburg till the 25th of October, following; that upon his arrival at that place the directors of the said hospital refused to receive the said lunatic, which obliged the petitioner to return with him to the said county of Rockbridge; that he has received no satisfaction for the care and maintenance of the said lunatic; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid the sum of 24l. 7s. for the same.

The 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th and 8th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 6th resolution was read a second time, and ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 3d, 5th and 8th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 7th resolution; and that the committee of Trade do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Stevens:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for the recovery of arms and accoutrements belonging to this State;" and "to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State.'" And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions directing the auditors of public accounts to grant a warrant to Thomas Brown, for his bounty; directing the treasurer to pay a sum of money to the Reverend Doctor Todd; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of Capt. Robert Porterfield; and, to settle the accounts of Capt. Amand Vogtleuson, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment, and the same being read was agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "concerning surveyors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed that Mr. William Robinson, one of the members for the county of Princess Anne, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Tuesday the 16th instant;

*Ordered,* That the said William Robinson be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the militia law;" and that Messrs. Zane, Matthews, Edmondson, ——— Smith, Rufin, Arthur Campbell, Pickett, Tazewell, Madison, Carter Henry Harrison, Lyne, Adams, Coker, Mercer, Alexander White, and Gatewood, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a committee be appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Cabell, Strother, Pickett, Henderson, Talbot, Norvell, Gilchrist, Thruston, Lyne, Newton, Madison and Wm. Watkins.

*Ordered,* That a message be sent to the Senate to inform them that this House hath appointed a committee to ex-



amine the treasurer's accounts, and if they please to appoint a committee of their House for that purpose, both committees may proceed to business together.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry the said message.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that

The order of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for providing a select militia for the defence of the Commonwealth," be postponed until the first Thursday in May next,

It passed in the affirmative.

Ayes

44

Noes

35

On a motion made by Mr. Richard Henry Lee, and seconded by Mr. Mercer,

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Madison, Frederick Maclin, William Smith, William Brown, Francis Goode, William Smith, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, William Watkins, George Wray, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, William Pickett, George Thomson, John Payne, George Clendinnen, Edmund Wilkins, Nelson Anderson, jun. Nathaniel Wilkinson, Peter Saunders, John Scasbrook Wells, John Heath, jun. Wm. White, Wm. Du-Val, Henry Stokes, Benjamin Wilson, John Watkins, Benjamin Porter, Geo. Lyne, Benjamin Hayley, Constant Perkins, James Allen, Edmund Ruffin, John Bowyer, Andrew Moore, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale, John Taylor, Thomas Towles, Michael Bailey, Arthur Campbell and Henry Tazewell.

And the names of the members who voted in the negative are, William Cabell, John Talbot, Adam Stephen, Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. William Green Munford, Joel Watkins, Henry Skipwith, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, John Marshall, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Shelton, John Coleman, Parke Gondall, William Norvell, Bernard Moore, Edwin Conway, John Carter, Kinchen Godwin, Thomas Matthews, John Hull, John Heath, John Holcombe, Thomas Walke, Arthur Lee, Robert Wormeley Carter, Charles Carter, John Mercer, Richard Cocke, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee and John Hutchings.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" and "to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, November 30, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for preventing forestalling, regrating, engrossing and public vendues,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

And the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "concerning surveyors;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Tazewell, Marshall, and Arthur Campbell.

A bill, "to indemnify certain persons for suppressing a conspiracy against this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the law respecting the collection of county and parish levies and officers fees;" and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Richard Henry Lee, Henderson, Strother, Robert Wormeley Carter, Arthur Lee, Cabell, Arthur Campbell, Walker, Newton and Talbot, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the law respecting the nomination and the qualification of sheriffs;" and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Richard Henry Lee, Henderson, Strother, Robert Wormeley Carter, Arthur Lee, Cabell, Arthur Campbell, Walker, Newton and Talbot, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat;" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Zane and Mercer, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "to amend the act entitled 'an act, to suppress excessive gaming,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Munford have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Payne until Tuesday se'nnight.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That all non-commissioned officers and private soldiers in the immediate service of this Commonwealth, who have been, or shall be taken in arms by the enemy, and who have, or shall make their escape from captivity, shall,



on application to the auditors, have their accounts of pay accruing whilst in confinement, settled, adjusted, and receive a certificate thereof, which being produced to the Governor, he shall direct the auditors to issue their warrant for the whole, or such part of the amount thereof, as may appear to him necessary for their immediate relief; and the treasurer is directed to pay all such warrants out of the contingent fund.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Heath presented, according to order, a bill, "to establish a ferry on Rappahannock river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Everard Meade, a member for the county of Amelia; Hugh Rose, a member for the county of Amherst; Zachariah Johnston, a member for the county of Augusta; Thomas Lewis, a member for the county of Botetourt; Charles Patterson and Thomas Anderson, members for the county of Bedford; Henry Skipwith, a member for the county of Cumberland; Charles Mynn Thruston, a member for the county of Frederick; James Mason, a member for the county of Greenville; Elias Poston, a member for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry, a member for the county of Henry; Nathaniel Burwell, a member for the county of James City; Josiah Parker, a member for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Roane, a member for the county of King and Queen; George Fitzhugh, a member for the county of King George; Holt Richeson and Bernard Moore, members for the county of King William; John Carter, a member for the county of Loudoun; William Du-Val, a member for the county of Louisa; Sylvanus Walker, a member for the county of Lunenburg; William Randolph, a member for the county of Mecklenburg; Thomas Moore and Simon Frazer, members for the county of Middlesex; Charles Martin, a member for the county of Monongalia; Jesse Evans, a member for the county of Montgomery; John Watkins and William Dandridge, members for the county of New Kent; John Bowdoin, a member for the county of Northampton; John Wilson, a member for the county of Pittsylvania; James Gordon, jun. a member for the county of Richmond; George Huston and William Nalle, members for the county of Rockingham; Mann Page, a member for the county of Spotsylvania; James Kee, a member for the county of Surry; David Mason, a member for the county of Sussex; David Campbell, a member for the county of Washington; and Joseph Prentiss, a member for the county of York.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the proprietors of the lead mines are desirous that the possession of the same should be restored; and it is just and reasonable that the said mines should be given up to them.

*Resolved, therefore*, That the Executive be authorised to deliver up the same, and to make any contract they may think proper, either with respect to the slaves the property of the public, or for any quantity of lead the public may have occasion for, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor with advice of Council, be authorised to restore to the respective proprietors, any slaves of private property now at the lead mines; and to direct payment for the use and service of the said slaves according to the hire or value of the same, in such manner as to them shall seem just and reasonable.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

**MR. SPEAKER**,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of British subjects into this State;" and "concerning John Younghusband." And then he withdrew.

A motion was made that the House do receive a petition from sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, said to contain matter of a public nature; and the question being put thereupon,

It passed in the negative.

Ayes

33

Noes

43

On a motion made by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, and seconded by Mr. Maclin;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes be taken on the foregoing question.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Talbot, Robert Clarke, Thomas Madison, Frederick Maclin, William Stith, William Brown, Joel Watkins, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, William Watkins, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, William Pickett, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, Edmund Wilkins, Nelson Anderson, jun. Parke Goodall, George Lyne, Francis Peyton, William White, Benjamin Wilson, John Heath, John Holcombe, James Allen, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Walke, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale, John Taylor, Thomas Towles, John Francis Mercer and Michael Bailey.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Parramore, William Cabell, John Cavanaugh, Adam Stephen, Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. Francis Goode, William Smith, George Wray, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, David Ross, George Thomson, Alexander White, John Shelton, John Payne, James Reid

John Coleman, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, John Scasbrook Wells, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. Henry Stokes, Kinchen Godwin, Thomas Newton, Thomas Matthews, John Hull, Benjamin Porter, Benjamin Hayley, Constant Perkins, Littleberry Mosby, William Robinson, John Bowyer, Andrew Moore, Charles Carter, Richard Cocke, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell and John Hutchings.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" and "to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 2, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Charles Mynn Thruston, one of the members for the county of Frederick; Mr. John Carter, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Mr. William Dandridge, one of the members for the county of New Kent; and Mr. Mann Page, one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Charles Mynn Thruston, John Carter, William Dandridge and Mann Page, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. William Du-Val, one of the members for the county of Louisa; Mr. Henry Skipwith, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; and Mr. Bernard Moore, one of the members for the county of King William; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said William Du-Val, Henry Skipwith and Bernard Moore be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to indemnify certain persons for suppressing a conspiracy against this State;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to indemnify certain persons for suppressing a conspiracy against this State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to suppress excessive gaming,'" was read the second time; and the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "to establish a ferry across Rappahannock river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Zane presented, according to order, a bill "to prevent the application for private laws, before the same shall be published;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "to establish a town at the courthouse, in the county of Greenbrier," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" and that Messrs. Peyton, Zane and Lyne, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for apprehending British prisoners of war;" and that Messrs. Zane and Thomas Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler, deceased, to Lettice Wheeler his widow, and four children;" and that Mr. John Heath, jun. do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing Josiah Reddick five thousand pounds of tobacco; empowering the treasurer to receive a sum of paper money from Captain Simon Morgan; directing the auditors to grant specie certificates to Gideon Spencer, and his company of militia, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; directing the auditors to grant a warrant to Mary Hurt; for making compensation to Barclay Cox, a wounded soldier; and for allowing Mary Ready, a sum of money. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, directing the auditors to grant a warrant to Henry



Armistead, in the name of Robert Scott; for making compensation to Jacob Miller; directing the auditors to grant a certificate to John Brown; and for making certain allowances to Joel Mohun and William M'Kee. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for directing the mode of adjusting and settling the payment of certain debts and contracts, and for other purposes;'" and that Messrs. Zane, Alexander White, Mercer, Richard Henry Lee, Lyne and William White, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Heath presented, according to order, a bill "to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler, deceased, to Lettice Wheeler his widow, and four children;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

Whereas, the provision heretofore made for reimbursing those who supplied the officers of the Virginia line, and militia officers of this Commonwealth, prisoners in Charlestown, with necessities, has not been adequate to that end, as some who have so furnished necessities as aforesaid, remain unsatisfied;

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed to bring in a bill "amendatory of the appropriation law," do receive a clause or clauses, for appropriating a reasonable portion of the revenue for the purpose of reimbursing such persons as have heretofore furnished the officers of the Virginia line, and militia officers of this Commonwealth, prisoners in Charlestown, and who have not already been reimbursed for the same, by the public.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue,'" do receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the said resolution.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

Whereas, Captain Benjamin Hoomes, by the late arrangement of the army, was discharged as one of the supernumerary officers from actual service, and therefore not entitled to any pay; and whereas, by a resolution of the General Assembly, passed on the 16th day of December, 1778, the said Benjamin Hoomes, on account of the wounds he received while in service, was continued in full pay; and that this Commonwealth in case he shall be refused full pay by the United States, would pay the same; and whereas, no funds have been appropriated for the purpose aforesaid, and the said Benjamin Hoomes cannot obtain that compensation for his wounds, intended him by the legislature;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the auditors of public accounts do issue their warrants upon the treasurer, for the full pay of the said Hoomes, and that the treasurer do pay the same out of the monies arising from the sale of the specifics under the revenue law.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. William Watkins, Peyton, Edmondson, Thomas Smith, Alexander White, Mercer, Robinson, Stith, Littleberry Mosby, Gilchrist, Porter, and Joel Watkins.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to lay before this House, as soon as may be, an estimate of the current expenses of the ensuing year, arising from the present civil and military establishments of this State; and also, a state of the public debts funded and unfunded, both foreign and domestic; and that an estimate founded on similar principles be laid before this House, at the commencement of each successive session of General Assembly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Talbot presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses, and appointing receivers at Westham;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the register of the Land Office, in issuing warrants to the officers, be directed to consider a lieutenant colonel and a lieutenant colonel commandant, upon an equality.



And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lyne do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to establish a town at the courthouse in the county of Greenbrier;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;" and that Messrs. Henderson, Richard Henry Lee, and Zane, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to establish a ferry across Rappahannock river" was committed, do receive a clause or clauses, for fixing the rates of ferriage at Sleepy Hole.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 3, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*. That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the two legions raised by this State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to prevent the application for private laws, before the same shall be published;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Zane, Du-Val and Lyne.

A bill, "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses, and appointing receivers at Westham;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler, deceased, to Lettice Wheeler his widow, and four children;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, directing the auditors to grant specie warrants to Gideon Spencer, and his company of militia; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the ordinance for affixing the meeting of the General Assembly, to the first Monday in May annually;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this House will not, after the end of the present session of Assembly, receive any memorial or petition, praying for the division of any county or parish, changing the place of holding any court, or other local matter, unless the purport of such petition or memorial, shall have been fixed at the door of the courthouse of the county where such alteration is proposed, at two different courts, and shall have remained there one day during the setting of each court, one month at least, previous to offering the same; and that this House will not, after the time aforesaid, receive any petition or memorial, or permit any bill to be brought in, for establishing or discontinuing ferries, or other matters affecting private property, unless the party or parties interested shall have had one month's notice thereof, if known to the petitioners, and if not known, the purport of such memorial, petition or bill, shall be set up at the courthouse in the manner before directed, and also inserted three times in the Virginia Gazette, one month before offering or moving for the same.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee of Trade do inquire into the nature of the service performed by a corps of horse raised in the county of Northampton, commanded by Captain John Darby, in the year 1781; and whether the said corps ought to be allowed the same pay as militia called into actual service; and report the same to this House.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that leave be given to bring in a bill "for conferring the rights of citizenship on William Booth;"

It passed in the negative.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics and persons of unsound minds;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendments made by this House to the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to vest the Capitol Square, with the buildings thereon, in the city of Williamsburg, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the said city;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend an act, entitled, 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;'" and that Messrs. Alexander White and Arthur Lee do prepare and bring in the same.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal so much of an act, as establishes a ferry from the land of John Fox, across York river;" and that Mr. Thruston do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, a resolution of the General Assembly, passed the 29th of November, in the present session of Assembly, the auditors of public accounts were directed to settle the accounts of Captain Robert Porterfield, as executor to his brother Colonel Charles Porterfield, deceased, with the public, and grant their warrant for the balance due on such settlement; and that the treasurer should pay the same out of the contingent military fund: and it now appears that no such fund exists;

Resolved, therefore, That the same be paid out of the fund appropriated for paying the contingent charges of government.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to vest the Capitol Square, with the buildings thereon, in the city of Williamsburg, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the said city;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the ordinance, 'for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly to the first Monday in May annually;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "concerning the titles of settlers on land surveyed for sundry companies;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, inspected several enrolled bills to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

Ordered, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the commissioners of the navy, and one other from the Spanish resident at Philadelphia; which were read.

Ordered, That the letter from the commissioners of the navy, be referred to Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Charles Carter, Mercer, Cabell, Lyne, Thruston, Matthews and Newton.

Ordered, That the letter from the Spanish resident, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the judges of the General Court, to superintend and regulate the public jail.'"

"An act, to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth.'"

"An act, to continue the act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'"

"An act, to vest certain lands in William Robinson, in fee."

"An act, concerning John McLean."

"An act, for giving further time to the freeholders and housekeepers of the parishes of Antrim and Westover, to elect new vestries."

"An act, concerning the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line."

"An act, granting a conditional pardon to certain offenders."

"An act, for dissolving the vestry of the parish of St. Anne, in the county of Essex."

"An act, to empower the justices of Greenbrier county, to clear a wagon road from the Warm Springs in Augusta."

"An act, for the recovery of arms and accoutrements, belonging to this State."

"An act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;' and

"An act, concerning John Younghusband."

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 4, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler, deceased, to Lettice Wheeler his widow, and four children;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler, deceased, to Lettice Wheeler his widow, and four children."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Heath do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the titles of settlers on lands, surveyed for sundry companies;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the titles of settlers on lands, surveyed for sundry companies."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to vest the Capitol Square, with the buildings thereon, in the city of Williamsburg, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the said city;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to vest the Capitol Square, with the buildings thereon, in the city of Williamsburg, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the said city."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics and persons of unsound minds;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, to whom was referred the resolution respecting Capt. Benjamin Hoomes, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the month of December, 1778, the Assembly came to the following resolutions respecting Capt. Hoomes:

*Resolved*, That the said Captain Hoomes, be allowed the sum of two hundred and sixteen pounds, to be paid him by the treasurer of this Commonwealth:

*Resolved*, That if he hath been discharged upon the late regulations, as one of the supernumerary officers upon half pay, he ought notwithstanding to be continued in full pay; and that the difference ought to be made good by this Commonwealth, in case he shall be refused full pay by the United States; it further appears to your committee, from a certificate of Col. William Davies, that the said Hoomes, is one of the supernumerary officers of the year 1778, who were allowed by Congress one year's pay in advance, and recommended to their respective States for such further compensation as they should think fit to allow; and that no half pay was given by Congress to any of them.

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Captain Hoomes, ought to be considered as a pensioned officer on full pay; and that the auditors of public accounts do issue their warrants to the said Hoomes, accordingly.



*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desira their concurrence.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "concerning pensioners;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported; from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of Andrew Wodrow, administrator with the will annexed of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, praying that he may be authorised and empowered to make legal conveyances for certain lots in the town of Falmouth, and a tract of land in the county of Stafford; which he sold agreeable to the directions of the will of the said Alexander Wodrow, in the year 1777; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the said Andrew Wodrow, may be empowered to sell the remainder of the real estate of the said Alexander Wodrow, deceased; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such further parts of the said petition, as pray that the said Andrew Wodrow, may be empowered as administrator with the will annexed of John Neilson, deceased, to sell and convey a moiety of certain lots and tracts of land lying in the counties of Stafford, Frederick, and Hampshire, agreeable to the will of the said John Neilson; and which were held in joint tenancy by the said Alexander Wodrow, and John Neilson, deceased; be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, appointed to bring in a bill or bills, on the aforesaid resolutions, that they receive a clause or clauses, for vesting the remainder of the estate of Alexander Wodrow in Andrew Wodrow, subject nevertheless to the future decision of the General Assembly.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to indemnify certain persons for suppressing a conspiracy against this State." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Brunswick, praying that the county may be divided into two distinct counties by the river Meherrin; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the justices of the county court of Brunswick, praying that an act may pass, for removing the courthouse to a place near the centre of the county; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of Bedford and Henry, praying that a new county may be formed out of the said counties, by a line to begin at the mouth of Black Water, thence up the meanders of Staunton River to the Great Mountains, thence along the same, passing the head of Black Water to the head of Shooting Creek, thence a straight line to the west end of Turkey Cock Mountain, thence along the same to intersect the dividing line between Henry and Pittsylvania counties, thence along that line to the mouth of Black Water; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Henry in opposition thereto; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Henry, praying that that part of the said county called the Trolow, may be added to the county of Montgomery; be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the justices of the county of Bedford, praying that an act may pass to establish a town at the courthouse; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Bedford, praying that the courthouse of the said county may be erected on the lands of David Wright, and a town established at the same place; be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d, 3d and 6th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Wyatt, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle of Guilford courthouse,

whilst serving in the militia ordered into Carolina from the county of Halifax, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half the pay of a soldier for two years, to commence from the 15th day of March, 1781.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Hamilton, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound which he received at the skirmish of Hotwater near Williamsburg, whilst engaged with a party of Lord Cornwallis's army; and also, that he may be reimbursed the expenses which he has incurred in endeavoring to effect a cure of his said wound, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half the pay of a soldier for two years, to commence from the 24th day of June, 1781; and also, that he be allowed 9l. 18s. 6d. the amount of his said expenses.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Hume, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound which he received in the year 1781 near Williamsburg, whilst serving in the militia ordered from the county of Fauquier, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half the pay of a soldier for three years, to commence from the 10th day of April, 1781.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Milam, setting forth, that the petitioner, together with Benjamin Milam and John Kennedy, served in the militia which were ordered into Carolina from the county of Bedford, in the year 1781; the petitioner as an ensign, and the said Benjamin Milam and John Kennedy as soldiers; that at the battle at Guilford courthouse they were severally taken prisoners, in which state the said Benjamin Milam on the 19th, and the said John Kennedy on the 26th of June, in the same year, died; and that the petitioner did not return to the said county of Bedford from his captivity, till the 2d day of August following; and praying that he may be allowed the pay of an ensign until the said 2d day of August, the day of his return; and also, that the representatives of the said deceased soldiers, may be entitled to their pay till the respective days on which they died, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to issue certificates for the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by General Stevens:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning the two legions raised by this State;" also, to the resolution directing the auditors to settle the accounts of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers that shall make their escape from the enemy, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered,* That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to establish a ferry across Rappahannock river," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses, for discontinuing Temple's ferry, in the county of King William.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. John Page of Caroline, Heath, Mann Page, Edmondson, Matthews, Gatewood and Meade, be added to the committee for Religion; Messrs. Thompson and Bowyer, to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the militia law;" Messrs. Lyne, Newton and Bowyer, to the committee appointed to inquire into abuses supposed to have been committed in the loading certain flag vessels, agreeable to a resolution of the last Assembly; and Mr. Ronald, to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue.'"

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Smith, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next; and Messrs. Maclin and Mosby, for the remainder of the session.

The House being informed that Mr. Hugh Rose, one of the members for the county of Amherst; and Mr. William Randolph, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said Hugh Rose and William Randolph, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution directing the treasurer to pay the balance due Captain Robert Porterfield, out of the contingent fund, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Peyton presented, according to order, a bill "for regulating the practice of attorneys;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved,* That the quartermaster general do make a return of the wagons, wagon and other horses belonging to the public, and their condition, as also, of the number of wagoners, blacksmiths, forage master, wagon master, clerks, superintendants of artificers, carpenters and negroes employed by him, taking care to note such as are soldiers, negroes belonging to the public, or hired.

*Resolved,* That the Governor be desired to cause a return to be made to this House, as soon as possible, of the pay, rations, forage and public horses allowed the quartermaster general; also, of the pay, rations, forage and public horses allowed to the other staff officers; and the pay and rations allowed the forage master, wagon master, clerks, superintendants of artificers, blacksmiths, wagoners, carpenters, hired negroes, and others now in public employment.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for ascer-



taining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" that they do comprise all the laws respecting the public taxes into one act.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 5, 1782.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. John Carter, Alexander White, Hutchings and Zaue, be added to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics and persons of unsound minds;" was read the third time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

An engrossed bill, "to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "concerning pensioners;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to suspend the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States, to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for regulating the practice of attorneys;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Scasbrook Wells have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of land or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution, directing the treasurer to pay Captain Robert Porterfield, the balance due him as executor of his brother Col. Charles Porterfield, deceased, out of the contingent fund; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer immediately pay out of the military fund, unto Francis Troin, captain of bombardiers, in continental service, (now a prisoner on parole,) forty dollars, to enable him to pay his tavern expenses; and in future, the commissary is hereby directed to issue to the said Capt. Troin his rations, during his stay in Richmond.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lyne do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, December 6, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "concerning pensioners;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act concerning pensioners."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



An engrossed bill, "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States, to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to enable the Congress of the United States to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Taylor:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting Capt. Benjamin Hoomes. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Benjamin Hayley have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House being informed that Mr. John Watkins, one of the members for the county of New Kent, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Watkins be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town in the county of Bedford;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to confirm the sale of certain lots and lands made by Andrew Wodrow, administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to alter the place of holding courts, in the county of Brunswick;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and disagreed to by the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the bill be recommitted to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; and that it be an instruction to the said committee to receive a clause or clauses, to exempt the professors, masters, and students of all Universities, Academies and Seminaries of learning, in this State, from military duty.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the register of the Land Office in issuing warrants to the officers, to consider colonels and lieutenant colonels commandant, upon an equality, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House to the resolution, directing the auditors to settle the accounts of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall make their escape from the enemy. And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

Mr. Thruston reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Francis Hill, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to confirm the title of Frederick Maclin and others, to certain lands," that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to regulate the pay of the militia heretofore called into ser-

vice, in cases not provided for by law;" and that Messrs. Zane, Alexander White, and Wilson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to authorise certain county courts to levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned;" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Southall, Zane and Goodall, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Charles Lewis, praying that an act may pass for laying off so much of his land, as lies between the town of Richmond and Gillies's creek on James river, and out to the land of Richard Adams, Esq. into lots and streets, and establish a town; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the towns of Petersburg, Blandford and Pocahontas, praying that the said towns may be united and incorporated; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, praying that the said county may be divided into two distinct counties; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said county of Loudoun, in opposition thereto; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Charles May, sheriff of the county of Buckingham, praying to be exonerated from paying ten per centum for interest and damages on the sum of 159*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* which he paid into the treasury before the judgment was obtained against him, and no credit allowed for the same; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Fluvanna, praying that an act may pass to authorise William Henry, to build a grist mill across Hardware river in the said county, is properly cognizable before a court of law.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said county in opposition thereto; be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the first resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bolling have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Friday next.

A bill, "to confirm the sale of certain lots and lands made by Andrew Wodrow, administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, the proprietors of the lead mines, are desirous that the possession of the same should be restored, and it is just and reasonable that the said mines should be given up to them;

*Resolved*, therefore, That the Executive be authorised either to deliver up the same, or to make any contract they may think proper, both with respect to the slaves the property of the public, and for any quantity of lead the public may have occasion for, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be authorised to restore to the respective proprietors, any slaves of private property, now at the lead mines; and to direct payment for the use and service of the said slaves, according to the hire or value of the same, in such manner as to them shall seem just and reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of an act of Assembly as authorises the judges of the General Court, to employ and pay an assistant clerk; ought to be repealed.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government;" ought to be amended.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the 1st and 2d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d and 4th resolutions; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Richard Henry Lee, Cabell, Alexander White, and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for better collecting and paying the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and that Messrs. Tazewell, Zane and White, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bailey be added to the committee appointed to bring in a bill, "to amend the militia law."

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill, "for establishing a ferry on Rappahannock river," was committed, that they receive a clause or clauses, for establishing a ferry from the land of John Turberville, at the place called Dials in the county of Fairfax, over Potomack river, to the opposite shore in the State of Maryland.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills, "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the ordinance, for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May annually;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 7, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "to confirm the sale of certain lots and lands made by Andrew Wodrow, administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to confirm the sale of certain lots and lands made by Andrew Wodrow, administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to confirm the title of Frederick Maclin and others, to certain lands," was read the third time; and the question being put, that the bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Bedford;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to alter the place of holding courts in the county of Brunswick;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the said committee, to receive a clause or clauses, for fixing the courthouse of Monongalia county at Zachariah Morgan's, during the present war.

The House being informed that Mr. Josiah Parker, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Josiah Parker be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hull have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Saturday next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, to whom the resolution upon the petition of Simon Nathan, was recommitteed, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their farther consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Simon Nathan, setting forth, that in the year 1780, he had various dealings with the then Board of Trade, on behalf of this Commonwealth, who became indebted to him in the sum of 15,000 livres, for which a bill of exchange was drawn on Messrs. Penet, Decosta, Freres & Co. merchants at Nantz and Bordeaux; that the said bill has been returned under regular protest to the petitioner, and that his said debt yet remains to be paid; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the said 15,000 livres, together with ten per centum interest and damages, and also the costs and charges of the said protest, ought to be paid the petitioner out of the fund appropriated for the commercial agent's department.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said resolution be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A report from the court of Henrico county, of the valuation of sundry houses, agreeable to a resolution of the last session of Assembly; was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from General Clarke; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.



The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Samuel Patteson, containing a charge against Arthur Campbell, Esq. a member of this House from the county of Washington; which was read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said letter be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, to enable the Congress of the United States, to levy a duty on certain goods, and merchandizes, and also on all prizes;’” “concerning pensioners;” “to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler, deceased, to Lettice Wheeler his wife, and four children;” “to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased;” “to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children;” and “concerning the titles of settlers on lands surveyed for sundry companies.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the keeper of the public jail, respecting certain criminals who have received a conditional pardon; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That John Crookshanks, late a soldier in Lieutenant Colonel Lee’s legion, be put on the pension list of this State; and the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts, be directed to settle the pay and clothing accounts of the officers and soldiers, who have been under the command of General Clarke on the western waters, on oath, up to the 1st of January, 1782.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be referred to the committee of Trade.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the keeper of the public prison, be directed to deliver John Caton, Levi Moore, Albrington Holland and Henry Norfleet, who stand severally pardoned, upon condition they and each of them serve in the Virginia line on continental establishment during the war, to Capt. Samuel Hogg, or Lieutenant Mark Vanderval, recruiting officers.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to bring in a bill “to regulate the pay of the militia heretofore called into service, and not provided for by law,” be directed to receive a clause or clauses, respecting scouts.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;” “to amend the ordinance, ‘for affixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May annually;’” “for further continuing and amending the act, ‘to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,’” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o’clock.

#### MONDAY, December 9, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. Zachariah Johnston, one of the members for the county of Augusta, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday the 30th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Zachariah Johnston be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Bowdoin, one of the members for the county of Northampton, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Bowdoin be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, “for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill, “to amend and reduce the several acts of Assem-

bly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to confirm the sale of certain lots and lands made by Andrew Wodrow, administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, and for other purposes;" and "to vest the Capitol Square, with the buildings thereon, in the city of Williamsburg, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the said city;" also, to the resolutions for allowing Thomas Wyatt, half pay of a soldier for two years; for making compensation to James Hamilton, a wounded soldier; and directing the auditors to settle the pay of, and grant certificates to William Milam, and the representatives of Benjamin Milam and John Kennedy. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be directed to lay before this House, a copy of the capitulation of York town, and an account of the quantity of tobacco shipped in all the flag vessels, in consequence thereof, distinguishing the quantity in each vessel.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for granting pardon to Demsey Butler;" and that Messrs. Parke and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Zaane presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate the pay of the militia heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee presented, according to order, a bill "for reducing the number of auditors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee presented, from the committee of Trade, according to order, a bill "to empower the auditors to settle certain militia certificates, and grant certificates thereupon;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Parker presented, according to order, a bill "granting pardon to Demsey Butler;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "granting pardon to Demsey Butler;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Parke and Matthews.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bills "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;'" "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the ordinance, 'for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May, annually;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 10, 1782.

The House being informed that Mr. George Huston, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Mr. James Gordon, jun. one of the members for the county of Richmond; and Mr. Thomas Lewis, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said George Huston, James Gordon, jun. and Thomas Lewis, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A bill, "to empower the auditors to settle certain militia accounts, and grant certificates thereupon;" was read the second time; and on the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "for reducing the number of Auditors;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "to regulate the pay of the militia heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Zane, Alexander White, Wilson and Southall.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Moore, a member for the county of Middlesex, has offered a contempt to the House, by escaping from the custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said information be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Parke reported, from the committee to whom the bill "granting pardon to Demsey Butler," was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Meade be added to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple';" "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the ordinance for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May annually;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 11, 1782.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting the lead mines. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "granting pardon to Demsey Butler;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, granting pardon to Demsey Butler."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Parker do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due, to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, directing the keeper of the public jail, to deliver up John Caton and others, to a recruiting officer; and for exonerating Charles May, sheriff of Buckingham county, from paying interest and damages upon a judgment obtained against him by the Solicitor General. And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise certain county courts to levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council, of the borough of Norfolk, praying that the streets of the said borough, may be regulated and laid off, agreeable to the report of the commissioners appointed by act of Assembly for that purpose; except only, that Church street, instead of seventy feet, may be made sixty feet wide, and run from the southern corner of the Church wall, eastwardly, straight down to the river; and that compensation be made to those whose lands or lots may be effected thereby; and that the court of Hustings in the said borough, may be a court of Record, with power to take cognizance of criminal offences; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the Corporation of the city of Richmond, as prays that the Mayor and commonalty, may be authorised to affix their seal for authenticating all commercial transactions; that the powers given to the directors of the public buildings, for improving the navigation of James river, and turning Shockæ creek into its own channel, by subscription, may be vested in the Corporation; that the Court of Hustings may be vested with power to receive probat of wills and deeds, and be constituted a Court of Records; and that two Aldermen may be added to the Court of Hustings, from the Common Councilmeu; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the said Corporation may be authorised to raise, by lottery, such a sum of money as may be adequate to the expense of erecting a stone bridge over Shockæ creek; is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That the said committee do receive a clause or clauses, for altering the court day of the Court of Hustings, in the town of Alexandria.

Mr. Thompson presented, according to order, a bill "to emancipate Liverpool, a slave;" and the same was received and read the first time.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the second reading of the bill, be postponed until the first Monday in March next,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor, with advice of Council, be empowered to take such measures for effectuating a peace with, and a cession, or purchase of lands from the Chickasaw Indians, as they shall judge will be most conducive to the honor, and interest of the State: *Provided always,* that in the deed of cession or purchase, it be expressed that although such lands do lie within the chartered limits of this Commonwealth, such cession is received, or purchase made upon the principle of cultivating peace and friendship with the Indians.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor, with advice of Council, be empowered either to order Col. Dabney's legion on duty, for the defence of the western frontier, or to appoint proper officers to enlist the soldiers of the said legion to serve in the line of this State, in continental service, for three years, or during the war.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that Messrs. Robert Wormeley Carter, Mann Page, Mercer, and Richard Henry Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution directing the auditors to settle the accounts of Thaddy Kelly, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Dedman have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House being informed that Mr. Joseph Prentis, one of the members for the county of York, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said Joseph Prentis be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Pendleton, be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances; and Mr. Alexander White to the committees appointed to bring in bills "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue,'" and "to redeem certain certificates."

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Honorable Edmund Randolph, Esq. containing his resignation as a delegate to represent this State in Congress; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the subject matter of a letter said to have been written by Arthur Lee, Esq. a delegate of this

State in Congress, to Mann Page, Esq. a member of this House, containing matter injurious to the public interests, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the letter written by the Honorable Arthur Lee, Esq. to Mann Page, Esq. was a private confidential letter, not intended for the public eye, and does not contain matters injurious to this Commonwealth; and that the services rendered by the said Arthur Lee to this community, are such as prevent all suspicions of inimical designs to this State, or America in general.

A motion was made, to amend the said report by striking out the whole of the said resolution, and inserting the words following in lieu thereof,

Whereas, the letter written by Arthur Lee to Mann Page, Esq. contains sentiments that prudence cannot justify a member of Congress in communicating by letter to his friend in a distant State, because such communications are at all times subject to publication, and since it hath become open to the public eye, may create in our allies a distrust in our public representatives, should the same be passed over without animadversion.

*Resolved, therefore,* That from the testimony offered upon this occasion, no just grounds exist to suspect the said Arthur Lee, of intending any thing by his said letter, injurious to the public good, he having evidenced his friendly disposition to the public; and his friend to whom this confidential communication was made, having uniformly and firmly manifested upon all occasions his warm attachment to the public weal.

*Resolved,* That the sentiments contained in the said letter, when written by a member of Congress, and laid open to the public view, may become extremely injurious to the public interest, and therefore, that the writing of the said letter was an act of imprudence, which possibly may involve Congress in a distressing and embarrassing situation, as well as tend to alter the train of negotiation pursuing by our Minister in Europe.

And the said amendment being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

Ayes

28

Noes

50

On a motion made by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, and seconded by Mr. Goodall;

*Ordered,* That the names of the Ayes and Noes on the question to agree to the foregoing amendment, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Madison, Thomas Lewis, William Stith, Robert Adams, jun. William Brown, William Green Munford, Joel Watkins, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, George Wray, Thomas Smith, Edmund Wilkins, John Coleman, James M'Craw, Nelson Anderson, jun. Parke Goodall, Francis Peyton, William White, Henry Stokes, Samuel Dednam, Benjamin Wilson, Thomas Newton, jun. James Allen, George Huston, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale, Thomas Towles and Henry Tazewell.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Walker, Everard Meade, William Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, John Talbot, Adam Stephen, Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. Francis Goode, William Smith, William Watkins, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, William Picket, David Ross, George Thomson, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, John Shelton, John Payne, James Reid, George Clendinnen, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, Josiah Parker, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. John Carter, Robert Sayres, Kinchen Godwin, John Watkins, John Bowdoin, John Heath, Benjamin Porter, Constant Perkins, John Holcombe, William Robinson, Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, jun. Andrew Moore, John Taylor, Mann Page, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, Richard Lee and Arthur Campbell.

And then the main question being put, that the House do agree to the report,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing the capitulation of York, and a state of the tobacco shipped on board certain flag vessels, in conformity to the said capitulation.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the resolution respecting non-commissioned officers and soldiers escaping from the enemy; and the same being read;

*Resolved,* That this House do recede from their disagreement to the said amendment, and doth agree to the said amendment with an amendment.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue into one act';" "for regulating the practice of attorneys;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple';" "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the ordinance, 'for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May annually';" "and for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, December 12, 1782.

A bill, "to authorise certain county courts to levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Zane and Reid.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "for equalizing the land tax;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Brigadier General Daniel Morgan, returning thanks to the General Assembly, for the speedy redress of the grievances of the army, as represented in their memorial, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to reduce the number of delegates representing this State in Congress;" and that Messrs. Zane, Ronald, Talbot and Mercer, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clarke have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until to-morrow; and Mr. William Watkins until this day se'nnight.

The House being informed that Mr. John Wilson, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Wilson be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "for equalizing the land tax;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Saturday next.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill, "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Bedford," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Gill, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Gill, praying that an act may pass, directing that the money arising from the sales of the estate of his uncle the Reverend John Brander, deceased, which was sold under the act of escheat and forfeitures from British subjects, may be paid to the petitioner; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Charles Gratiot; is reasonable.
2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the sum of eight thousand two hundred and twelve dollars and one third of a dollar, is due to the said Charles Gratiot, as appears by bills of exchange drawn by Colonel George Rogers Clarke and Colonel John Montgomery; and that the same ought to be paid by the public.
3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Edmondson, praying that five acres of land of which he is seised, lying in the common, appropriated for the benefit of the borough of Winchester, may be annexed to the said borough, and the petitioner empowered to lay out the said land into half acre lots, and dispose of the same; is reasonable.
4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Benjamin Haskins, sheriff of the county of Prince Edward; is reasonable.
5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Benjamin Haskins, ought not to pay ten per centum interest on the sum of 575*l*. being part of the sum for which judgment was obtained against him, at the last General Court for balance of taxes; it appearing to the committee, that the said Benjamin Haskins, was ready and desirous to pay the said sum, before judgment was entered against him, but was prevented, from the multiplicity of business at the treasury.
6. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Walker Tomlin, praying that a public ferry may be established from his land in the county of King William, across the Pamunkey river to the public landing in the town of New Castle; be rejected.
7. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Nelson Anderson the elder, Daniel



Trueheart and Zachariah Clarke, praying that the interest of the tobacco, they severally lent the public under a resolution of the Assembly, passed in the year 1780, may be paid to them annually; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the 1st, 2d, 4th and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d and 7th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the 6th resolution be recommitted to the same committee.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Arthur Campbell, Esq. a member of this House, relative to the inquiry directed to be made by the committee of Privileges and Elections into his conduct; which was read and ordered to be referred to the said committee.

Information being given to the House that Mr. James M'Craw, a member of this House for the county of Halifax, hath uttered expressions and delivered sentiments in public, inimical to the interests of this Commonwealth:

*Resolved*, therefore, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, do inquire into the subject matter of the said information, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Thruston presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "to repeal part of an act, entitled 'an act, declaring what shall be a lawful marriage;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of Civil Government;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

✕ MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, "granting pardon to Demsey Buder;" also, they do agree ✕ to the amendment to their amendment, to the resolution, respecting non-commissioned officers and soldiers, escaping from the enemy. And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills, "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of land or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;'" "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the ordinance, 'for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May annually;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### FRIDAY, December 13, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "for the better collecting the fees due or to become due to the clerks of the Superior courts;" was read the third time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

An engrossed bill, "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up;

And on the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes	55	Noes	19
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On a motion made by Mr. Thomson, and seconded by Mr. Richard Henry Lee;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Walker, Everard Meade, William Cabell, John Cunningham, Adam Stephen, Thomas Madison, Thomas Lewis, William Stith, Robert Adams, jun. Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. William Green Munford, William Smith, Carter Henry Harrison, George Booker, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, William Pickett, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Shelton, John Payne, Turner Southall, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, Josiah Parker, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. Francis Peyton, John Watkins, Thomas Newton, John Bowdoin,

John Heath, John Wilson, Constant Perkins, William Ronald, William Robinson, Thomas Walke, Arthur Lee, Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, jun. Andrew Moore, George Huston, William Nalle, John Taylor, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, Edward Harwood, Richard Henry Lee, Arthur Campbell, Joseph Prentiss and Henry Tazewell.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Zachariah Johnston, John Talbot, Robert Clarke, Joel Watkins, French Strother, James Pendleton, George Wray, George Thomson, James Reid, John Coleman, Parke Goodall, William White, Henry Stokes, Benjamin Wilson, John Holcombe, James Allen, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale and Thomas Towles.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the said bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The House being informed that Mr. Charles Patteson, one of the members for the county of Buckingham, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Charles Patteson be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for reducing the number of auditors;" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;" "to amend the ordinance, 'for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly, on the first Monday in May annually;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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## SATURDAY, December 14, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Bedford;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town in the county of Bedford."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to repeal part of an act, entitled 'an act, declaring what shall be a lawful marriage;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Religion.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of Civil Government;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "to establish a town on the lands of Charles Lewis, in the county of Henrico;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "directing the monies arising from the sales of John Brander's estate, to be paid to William Gill;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to suspend in part the operation of the laws of escheat;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, for issuing land warrants to colonels, and lieutenant colonels commandant; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lyne do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of George Daniel, late sheriff of the county of Middlesex, praying to be exonerated from a judgment obtained against him, in behalf of the Commonwealth, in December, 1781, upon his paying to the Solicitor General, 3,955 pounds of crop tobacco, and 21,329 pounds paper money, together with the costs of the said judgment; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thaddy Kelly, praying that he may be entitled to the bounty in lands allowed by law to captains serving three years in the Virginia line; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Peter Copland, of the county of Charles City, praying that he may be paid for a negro woman slave, named Penelope, who was condemned by the court of the said county, for felony, and executed accordingly, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed and paid by the public, the sum of 30*l.* for the said slave.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Peter Poythress, of the county of Prince George, praying that he may be paid for two negro slaves, named Minas and Will, who were condemned by the court of the said county, for felony and burglary, and executed accordingly, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed and paid by the public, the sum of 250*l.* for the said slaves.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the 1st, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for auditing certain public claims;'" and that Messrs. Henderson and Zachariah Johnston, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to vest the power of granting divorces in certain cases in the High Court of Chancery;" and that Messrs. Mercer and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Arthur Campbell presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for regulating and disciplining the militia;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution empowering the Governor to make peace with, and a purchase of lands from the Chickasaw Indians. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Zane presented, according to order a bill "to reduce the number of delegates representing this State in Congress;" and the same was received and read the first time.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the second reading of the said bill, be postponed until the first Monday in May next,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes

46

Noes

28

On a motion made by Mr. Zane, and seconded by Mr. Huston;

*Ordered,* That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Walker, Everard Meade, John Cunningham, Adam Stephen, Thomas Lewis, Charles Pattenon, Robert Adams, jun. William Brown, Robert Gilchrist, William Green Munford, William Smith, James Pendleton, George Wray, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, George Thomson, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Payne, Edmund Wilkins, John Coleman, James McCraw, Nathaniel Wilkinson, William Norvell, Josiah Parker, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun., John Carter, Robert Sayres, John Watkins, John Bowdoin, John Heath, John Wilson, Constant Perkins, William Ronald, Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, jun. John Taylor, Mann Page, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Joseph Prentiss and Henry Tazewell.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Parramore, Zachariah Johnston, John Talbot, Robert Clarke, Thomas Madison, William Smith, Joel Watkins, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, George Booker, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, George Clendinnen, Nelson Anderson, jun. Turner Southall, Peter Saunders, William White, Henry Stokes, Benjamin Porter, John Holcombe, James Allen, Andrew Moore, George Huston, William Nalle, Isaac Zane, Tavernier Beale and Thomas Towles.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the act, 'to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783;" and that Messrs. Mercer, Richard Henry Lee, Alexander White, Cabell and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill, "for equalizing the land tax;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.



*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by the Constitution of government it is declared that, "the delegates representing this State in Congress shall be chosen annually, or superseded in the mean time, by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly;" and

Whereas, in times of great peril and danger, it is politically wise that the Legislature should make frequent exercise of the power to continue or supersede officers in high and important trust, so as to prevent all possible injury to the public interest, and promote a spirit of free inquiry into the conduct of those to whom the representative trust is confided;

*Resolved, therefore*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress, to serve until the second Monday in November next.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

Ayes	37	Noes	40
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*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, in the room of Edmund Randolph, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills, "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" "for reducing the number of auditors;" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;" "for establishing an inspection of tobacco in Campbell county, and for erecting warehouses and appointing receivers at Westham;" "to amend the ordinance, 'for fixing the meeting of the General Assembly on the first Monday in May annually;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 16, 1782.

The House met according to their adjournment;

But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 17, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for regulating and disciplining the militia;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to establish a town on the lands of Charles Lewis, in the county of Henrico;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, on the first Thursday in May next.

A bill, "directing the money arising from the sales of John Brander's estate, to be paid to William Gill;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Saturday next.

Mr. Edmondson presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Zane reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to authorise certain county courts to levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned," that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

And the question being put, that the said bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting certain public claims;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter presented, according to order, a bill "concerning the legion under the command of Colonel Dabney;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for defending and protecting the trade of Chesapeake Bay,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Mercer presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments, until December, 1783,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee to whom the bill "concerning surveyors," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Mercer presented, according to order, a bill "to establish spiritual jurisdiction in certain cases, in the High Court of Chancery;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a letter from the Honorable Cyrus Griffin; and also, several petitions and resolutions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the warrants granted the said Cyrus Griffin, for the sum of 3,258 dollars, being for arrears of pay due him, whilst representing this State in Congress, ought to be receivable in taxes, or paid by the treasurer out of the fund appropriated for the civil list.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Buckner, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he was engaged by Baron Steuben, as well to carry some despatches from the Marquis de la Fayette to the commanding officer of a presumed French fleet, which had anchored in the Bay of Chesapeake, as to act as a pilot on board the same; that he accordingly took charge of the said despatches and joined the said fleet, when to his great mortification he found them to be British, and commanded by Admiral Arbuthnot; that he was carried to England, and remained in jail nearly twelve months; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed 6s. per day, to commence the 16th of March, 1781, the day that he was captured, till the 7th day of March, 1782, the day that he returned home; and that the same ought to be charged in account with the United States.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Henry Delony, setting forth, that in the active campaign of 1781, he accepted an appointment under John Brown, late commissary general of provisions, as his deputy in the county of Mecklenburg; that in consequence of assurances from the said John Brown, that regular remittances of money should be made him, he has made himself liable for the payment of 604l. 12s. 0 1-2d. to several persons employed in collecting and driving beeves, and wagoning flour and other articles to the army, which still remains to be paid; and praying that provision may be made by the public for the payment of the same, is reasonable; and that the accounts of the several persons employed by the petitioner in the above business, ought to be inspected and allowed by the court of Claims, in the county where the said services were performed, and transmitted to the auditors for certificates to issue thereupon.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of David Gray, setting forth, that by an act of Assembly passed in the year 1780, the county of Rockbridge was to furnish a wagon and team, which he procured, and gave his bond for the payment of the purchase money; that by reason of the frequent drafts of the militia from the said county, the tax directed by the said act, to be levied on the inhabitants thereof for procuring the said wagon and team, could not be collected till the paper money was called in and funded, which has been tendered in discharge of his said bond and refused; and praying relief; be rejected.

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Meade, setting forth, that in the year 1780, the General Assembly passed a resolution in his favor, allowing him 3l. 10s. per day, for services by him performed, as jailor of the county of Bedford; that the total sum amounted to 6,300l. but in consequence of some mistake made in the report from the Senate, the petitioner was allowed only 6,000l.; and praying that the deficiency may be paid him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the sum of 4l. for the same.

6. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Major Alexander Stuart, praying that he may be allowed pay as a major of militia, during his captivity, being taken a prisoner at the battle of Guilford courthouse; and also, that compensation may be made him for two horses, and his arms, which were taken from him by the enemy; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

7. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Daniel Jones, praying that compensation may be made him for a mill and granary, which were taken from him in the year 1781, for the purpose of manufacturing and storing flour for public service, and whilst in that service, were destroyed by the enemy; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

8. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Leroy Peachey, setting forth, that being county lieutenant of Richmond, he has in discharge of his duty, received and disbursed considerable sums of paper money; for a settlement of which, his accounts and vouchers have been laid before the auditors, who have refused to

settle the same, unless the petitioner would agree to settle by the scale of depreciation, which he conceives, would in many instances be unjust, and praying relief; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

9. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That Robert Crookshanks, of Col. Lee's legion, in consideration of a wound which he has received whilst a soldier in the continental service, ought to be allowed six month's pay for his present relief; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

10. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the auditors of public accounts, ought to settle the pay roll of Capt. John Darby's company of volunteers, raised in the county of Northampton for the defence thereof; and allow each volunteer one shilling per day for his services.

11. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the pay and clothing accounts of the officers and soldiers, who have been under the command of General Clarke on the western waters, ought not to be settled by the auditors of public accounts, upon oath only.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d, 5th, 9th and 10th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to nominate a person proper to be ballotted for, as a delegate to represent this State in Congress, in the room of Edmund Randolph, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-day, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, the conduct of the British Ministry strongly evinces, that an endeavor to create dissensions between the good people of these United States, and their generous Ally, as well as to create a dislike in the minds of the people to their present Government and Governors, is the system now pursuing, whereby they expect to effect that which they have long since been satisfied the force of arms could not accomplish; and it highly behooves the representatives of the people to guard against such attempts in their beginning;

*Resolved, unanimously*, That his excellency the Governor, with advice of Council, be, and he is hereby directed, to use his utmost vigilance in preventing such persons, whose suspicious characters cause him to believe them secret emissaries from our enemies, from coming within this Commonwealth; and if without his knowledge such persons gain admittance, that he forthwith cause such persons to be sent out of the same, or dealt with according to law;

*Resolved, unanimously*, That no person having, or pretending to have, a commission from his Britannic Majesty to treat with these United States, or either of them, for peace, separate from our great Ally his most Christian Majesty, ought to be permitted to come within this State, either by land or water; and that the Governor take such measures as may most effectually prevent the same.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That it be an instruction to our delegates in Congress, not to consent to open a communication with any agent or minister from his Britannic Majesty, upon the subject of a peace, separate from our great Ally the King of France, nor unless the independence of America, be in the most ample manner acknowledged as a preliminary thereto.

Whereas, revolutions in States which end in a dissolution of their former government or Constitution, bear no similarity to contests between independent nations, in which the object is the defence and support of their constitutions and governments; inasmuch as in the former, the life, liberty and property of the individual are risked; and in the latter the powers and rights of the whole community in their political capacity are hazarded;

*Resolved therefore, unanimously*, That when the former constitution or social compact of this country, and the civil laws which existed under it were dissolved, a majority of the inhabitants had, through necessity, an unquestionable natural right to frame a new social compact, and to admit as parties thereto, those only, who would be bound by the laws of the majority; and consequently as no individual can claim immunities, privileges or property in any community but under the laws of that community, so all those who were members of the former government, which, and its dependant laws have been dissolved, abrogated and made void, cannot have legal claim to any immunity, privilege or property under our present constitution, or those laws which flow from it, if they were not parties to the present social compact originally, or have become parties by the subsequent laws thereof;

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the laws of this State, confiscating property held under the laws of the former government (which have been dissolved and made void,) by those who have never been admitted into the present social compact, being founded on legal principles, were strongly dictated by that principle of common justice, which demands, that if virtuous citizens, in defence of their natural and constitutional rights, risk their life, liberty and property on their success, the vicious citizens, who side with tyranny and oppression, or who cloak themselves under the mask of neutrality, should at least hazard their property, and not enjoy the benefits procured by the labors and dangers of those whose destruction they wished;

*Resolved, unanimously*, That all demands or requests of the British Court for the restitution of property confiscated by this State, being neither supported by law, equity or policy, are wholly inadmissible; and that our delegates



in Congress be instructed to move Congress, that they may direct their deputies, who shall represent these States in the General Congress, for adjusting a peace or truce, neither to agree to any such restitution, or submit that the laws made by any independent State of this Union, be subjected to the adjudication of any power or powers on earth.

*Resolved*, That the suspension of the act, "for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land," be taken off from and after the first day of January next.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the last resolution; and that Messrs. Mann Page, and Mercer, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the 1st and 2d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" "for equalizing the land tax;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds;'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" and "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" be revived.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for equalizing the land tax;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive them.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

A bill, "to establish spiritual jurisdiction in certain cases, in the High Court of Chaucery;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the third Thursday in May next.

A bill, "concerning the legion under the command of Col. Dabney;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Robert Wormeley Carter, Mann Page, Mercer, and Richard Henry Lee.

A bill, "to amend the act 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting certain public claims,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to amend the act, "for defending and protecting the trade of Chesapeake Bay;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the resolutions, to exempt Benjamin Haskins from paying interest on a judgment obtained against him for taxes; and to proceed by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, in the room of Edmund Randolph, Esq. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Zane reported, from the committee to whom the bill, "to regulate the pay of the militia heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law;" that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of Civil Government,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.  
And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 18, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "concerning surveyors;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning surveyors."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Elzey :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for defending and protecting the trade of Chesapeake Bay,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for defending and protecting the trade of Chesapeake Bay.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

Whereas, Arthur Lee, Esq. bath by his conduct, induced in the minds of the people, suspicions respecting his friendship to the French Alliance, and it becomes the representatives of the people, at all times, to manifest to that nation how much they are attached to their Alliance;

*Resolved*, That the said Arthur Lee, Esq. be, and he is hereby recalled from Congress; and that this House will, by joint ballot with the Senate, proceed to the choice of another member, to represent this State in Congress, until the second Monday in November next, in the place of the said Arthur Lee, Esq. who is hereby recalled.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Ayes

48

Noes

37

On a motion made by Mr. Zane, and seconded by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison;

*Ordered*, That the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

And the names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Everard Meade, John Cunningham, John Talbot, Adam Stephen, Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. Francis Goode, William Smith, Henry Skipwith, James Pendleton, Robert Bolling, George Booker, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, William Pickett, George Thomson, Alexander White, John Page, John Shelton, John Payne, James Reid, James McCraw, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, Josiah Parker, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. John Carter, Robert Sayres, John Watkins, John Bowdoin, John Hull, John Heath, Benjamin Porter, John Wilson, Constant Perkins, Edmund Ruffin, William Robinson, Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, Andrew Moore, John Rogers, John Taylor, Mann Page, Charles Carter, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell and Joseph Prentis.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Parramore, William Cabell, Robert Clarke, Thomas Madison, William Stith, Robert Adams, jun. William Brown, Joel Watkins, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, George Wray, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, John Coleman, Nelson Anderson, jun. Parke Goodall, George Lyne, Francis Payton, William White, William Du-Val, Henry Stokes, Benjamin Wilson, Thomas Newton, Thomas Matthews, John Holcombe, James Allen, Thomas Walke, George Huston, William Nalle, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale, Thomas Towles, Edward Harwood, Cole Digges and Henry Tazewell.

Mr. Edmondson reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that they had according to order, inspected several, to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmondson do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

The House proceeded, according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a delegate to represent this State in Congress, until the second Monday in November next, in the room of Edmund Randolph, Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Cabell, Thomson and Matthews, were appointed a committee, to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House, and reported, that they had according to order, met a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority in favor of John Francis Mercer, Esq.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, according to order, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday, to the bill "for equalizing the land tax;" which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Mercer presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal part of the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, to exonerate George Daniel from a judgment obtained against him; and for allowing Charles Gratiot a sum of money, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to repeal part of the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. John Francis Mercer, a member for the county of Stafford, presented to the House, in his place, the following written information, with the names of the informants subjoined thereto, to wit:

"That it was the public conversation in Philadelphia, that there is a *British party on the continent*, at the head of which are Messrs. Adams, Lee and Lawrens."

COL. SAMUEL GRIFFIN."

"That a letter was intercepted by the *Compte de Vergennes* from Dr. Berkenhout to Dr. Lee, to the following effect:

"*Your letters have done great things, and depend on it, riches, honors and dignities await your family.*"

Colonel Griffin has not seen the letter, but says it is so reported in Philadelphia.

"That Dr. Lee, when a commissioner, directed his public letters to private friends, to retain what part and produce what part they pleased to Congress.

The Honorable MERIWETHER SMITH,

The Honorable JAMES MERCER."

"That the *Compte de Vergennes* wrote the French Minister in America, that he could make no confidential communications to our commissioners, for he could not distinguish between them; and he suspected Dr. Lee and all about him."

The Honorable MERIWETHER SMITH."

And the said information being read:

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said information be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue' into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of Civil government," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, December 19, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "for equalizing the land tax;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of rider, to empower the Governor and Council to supply of the examiners, by death, resignation or refusal to act; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of rider.

And on the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes

71

Noes

17

On a motion made by Mr. Thomson, and seconded by Mr. Cabell;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Everard Meade, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Adam Stephen, Thomas Lewis, William Stith, Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. William Green



Munford, William Smith, Henry Skipwith, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, James Pendleton, Robert Bolling, William Watkins, George Wray, George Booker, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, William Pickett, Alexander White, John Page, Thomas Smith, John Shelton, John Payne, James Reid, Nelson Anderson, jun. Parke Goodall, Turner Southall, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, Josiah Parker, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. Francis Peyton, John Carter, Henry Stokes, Benjamin Wilson, Robt. Sayres, John Watkins, Thomas Newton, Thomas Matthews, John Bowdoin, John Hull, John Heath, Benjamin Porter, John Wilson, William Ronald, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Walke, Arthur Lee, Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, jun. Andrew Moore, George Huston, William Nalle, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale, John Taylor, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, Edward Harwood, Cole Digges, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell and Joseph Prentis.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Walker, William Cabell, John Talbot, Robert Clarke, Charles Patteson, Robert Adams, jun. William Brown, Joel Watkins, George Thomson, George Clendinnen, John Coleman, William White, William Du-Val, Constant Perkins, John Holcombe, James Allen and Thomas Towles.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, for equalizing the land tax."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter do carry the said bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for making an allowance to William Buckner; for settling the pay roll of Captain John Darby's company of volunteers; and empowering the treasurer to receive the warrants granted Cyrus Griffin, Esq. in payment of taxes. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "concerning surveyors;" and, "to amend the act, for defending and protecting the trade of Chesapeake Bay;" also, to the resolutions respecting a separate peace. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for farther continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for making compensation to Robert Crookshanks; also, to the bill "for establishing a town at the courthouse in the county of Bedford," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal part of the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal part of the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter presented, according to order, a bill "for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to receive from the commissioners, the monies arising from the sales of the Accomack and Diligence gallies.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Prentis, Thomas Walker and Zachariah Johnston, be added to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue.'"

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of the officers and soldiers of Colonel White's regiment, and

Colonel Posey's detachment, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of John Mayo, jun. and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy, in the room of Thomas Newton, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;'" "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;'" "to amend the act, 'for adjusting certain public claims;'" "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments, until December, 1783;'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of the civil government," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, December 20, 1782.

A bill, "concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to proceed to-day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Elzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from so much of their third amendment to the bill "for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy;" as was disagreed to by this House, and agree to the amendments made by this House to their said third amendment; also, they do agree to the bill "for equalizing the land tax," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to nominate a person proper to be ballotted for as a commissioner of the Navy.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by a resolution of the last Assembly, the auditors of public accounts were directed to grant warrants to certain officers of the Virginia lines, to reimburse them their reasonable expenses, whilst attending in support of a memorial by them presented to the last Assembly; which warrants still remain to be paid;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the treasurer do forthwith discharge the said warrants out of the military fund.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The order of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;'" "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;'" "to amend the act, 'for adjusting certain public claims;'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the

Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act, for ascertaining the salaries of the officers of civil government," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, December 21, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder, to admit the settlers on certain grantees' lands, to pay the principal and interest of their purchase money, in like manner with other debtors, agreeable to the said act.

And the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder.

And then the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 72

Noes 16

On a motion made by Mr. Gordon, and seconded by Mr. Richard Henry Lee;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Thomas Walker, Everard Meade, William Cabell, John Talbot, Robert Clarke, Adam Stephen, Thomas Lewis, William Smith, Charles Patteson, Robert Adams, jun. Robert Gilchrist, John Page, jun. William Green Munford, William Smith, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, James Pendleton, George Wray, John Edmondson, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, William Pickett, David Ross, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, John Page, Thomas Smith, John Shelton, John Payne, James Reid, George Clendinnen, John Coleman, Nelson Anderson, jun. Parke Goodall, Turner Southall, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, George Lyne, Edwin Conway, John Heath, jun. Francis Peyton, William White, William Du-Val, Henry Stokes, Benjamin Wilson, John Watkins, Thomas Matthews, John Bowdoin, John Heath, John Wilson, Constant Perkins, John Holcombe, James Allen, Edmund Rufin, William Robinson, Thomas Walke, Arthur Lee, Andrew Moore, William Nalle, Isaac Zane, Taverner Beale, John Taylor, Mann Page, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter, John Francis Mercer, Edward Harwood, Cole Digges, Arthur Campbell and Joseph Prentiss.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Joel Watkins, William Watkins, George Thomson, James McCraw, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Josiah Parker, Thomas Newton, John Hull, Benjamin Porter, Robert Wormeley Carter, James Gordon, jun. George Huston, Richard Henry Lee and Richard Lee.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing certain sums of money to Peter Poythress and Peter Copland; and to the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds;" and "to repeal part of the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for equalizing the land tax." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "for equalizing the land tax;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*. That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the Senate's amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to repeal part of the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land;" and the same being read, were agreed to.



*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, from the committee to whom the bill "concerning the legion under the command of Col. Dabney," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the accounts of the messengers sent for delinquent members, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the account of Anthony Dunlavy against this Commonwealth, amounting to 8*l.* 2*s.* for riding 386 miles; and also, the account of Matthew Pate against this Commonwealth, amounting to 4*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* for riding 228 miles; including their respective expenses, as special messengers to take into their custody delinquent members, are reasonable; and that the treasurer ought to pay the same, amounting to 12*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* out of the fund appropriated for the civil list, after being audited.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the sum of 5*l.* 3*s.* part of the above sum, ought to be re-paid into the treasury by the following members, and in the following proportions, to wit: Thomas Moore, Esq. the sum of 3*l.* 15*s.* and Simon Frazier, Esq. the sum of 1*l.* 8*s.*

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the Virginia delegates in Congress, and sundry resolutions of that body; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, a statement of the evidence taken on the inquiry respecting Mr. Richard Henry Lee, a member for the county of Westmoreland; and Mr. Arthur Lee, a member for the county of Prince William; and the same being read:

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, be discharged from further proceeding thereupon.

*Ordered*, That the said statement of evidence, be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House then, immediately resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. John Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the information made to the House by a member in his seat, respecting Mr. Richard Henry Lee, a member for the county of Westmoreland, was fully warranted by the communication made to him by the several witnesses, who have given testimony before the committee of Privileges and Elections.

*Resolved unanimously*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That no part of the communications made to the said member, and afterwards delivered in evidence before the committee of Privileges and Elections, does in any manner touch the public or private conduct of the said Mr. Richard Henry Lee, or induce the most distant suspicion of his want of attachment to the interests of his country; but that on the contrary, this committee do bear testimony to the world, that the uniform rectitude of his public conduct entitles him to the fullest confidence, and warmest approbation of his country.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy; for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;'" "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;'" "to amend the act, 'for auditing certain public claims;'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of Civil government,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

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MONDAY, December 23, 1782.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting retribution for confiscated property; also, for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the legion under the command of Colonel Dabney;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the legion under the command of Colonel Dabney."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, much inconvenience doth arise from the mode heretofore adopted by the committee appointed to burn and destroy the paper money, emitted by this State;

*Resolved*, therefore, That the committee appointed to burn the paper money, be directed and empowered to burn the same as it may be paid into the treasury, without any discrimination of the different emissions; and that for their services, each member of the committee attending on this business, shall receive and be paid the sum of ten shillings per day.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting the accounts of Oliver Pollock, which was read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Oliver Pollock, respecting his claim against this State; which was read and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Solicitor, enclosing a state of the public taxes; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning the appointment of sheriffs," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Talbot reported, from the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts, that the committee had, according to order, examined and compared the same, and had agreed upon a report thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the treasury have, according to order, carefully examined and compared the same with their proper vouchers, from the 13th April, 1782, to the 30th November following, inclusive; by which it appears that Jacquelin Anblor, Esq. treasurer, has received within those periods in specie, specie warrants and certificates and commutable articles, to the amount of 99,048*l.* 5*s.* 6 3-4*d.*, on various accounts; it appears also, that he has disbursed to the amount of 61,583*l.* 8*s.* 5 3-4*d.*, which leaves a balance of 37,464*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.* now resting in the treasury, chiefly in commutable articles, to be carried to the credit of the State in the next account. It also appears, that very considerable sums of paper money have been received and disbursed within the aforesaid periods, and that very large quantities now remain in the treasury; but your committee not having sufficient time for examining the paper money account fully, and ascertaining what still remains in the treasury, have referred the same to a future settlement. The accounts appear to have been fairly and properly stated, and accurately kept; your committee having discovered two inconsiderable errors only, one of four pence against, and one of two pence in favor of the State, which are duly rectified; but for a more clear explanation, your committee beg leave to refer to the general account annexed.

*DR.* The Public Treasury, from the 13th of April, 1782, to the 30th of November, 1782, both inclusive.

To Land Office, per account,	-	-	Folio 2,	£ 314 0 0
Officers of the customs, 422 <i>l.</i> 13 <i>s.</i> 3 1-4 <i>d.</i>	}	-	6,	1,838 9 4 1-4
Do. by virtue of revenue act, 1,415 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>		-	13,	4 9
Clerks of counties,	-	-	17,	6,400 8 2 1-2
Escheators,	-	-	27,	89,210 12 8 3-4
Sheriffs,	-	-	31,	720 4 9 1-4
Inspectors of tobacco, (rents,) 254 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 7 1-2 <i>d.</i>	}	-	35,	290 11 6
Ditto tax on tobacco exported, 466 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> 1 3-4 <i>d.</i>		-	37,	273 13 11
Agent for sale of commutables,	-	-		4
Sundries,	-	-		
Error in extending folio 26,	-	-		

£ 99,048 5 6 3-4



*CR. The Public Treasury, from the 13th of April, 1782, to the 30th of November, 1782, both inclusive.*

By disbursements per account,	-	-	-	Folio 12,	£ 61,583	8	3-4
Error in extending folio 26,	-	-	-				2
Balance to new account,	-	-	-			37,464	17 1
					£ 99,048	5	6 3-4

Errors Excepted.

J. AMBLER, *Treasurer.*

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the treasurer's accounts do pass.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Walker reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the information respecting Mr. James M'Craw, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

John Amenet being sworn, said, that he heard the same said James M'Craw say God bless the King, and here's his health; that he damned the Congress for a pack of damned knaves and fools; and as well as he recollects, the said M'Craw damned the legislative bodies on the continent, damned every man in office, and wished he had power to dethrone God, as he, the said M'Craw, had ambition enough to sit judge himself; the deponent being interrogated, said that the said James M'Craw was at that time a stranger and unknown to him.

Richard Booker being sworn, said, that being in company with the said James M'Craw, at Pocahontas, in the county of Chesterfield, he asked the said M'Craw, if the militia of Halifax county had marched to Hillsborough to join Gen. Stevens, who replied no, they were fools if they did; that the said M'Craw afterwards said, that as a sheriff, he had been a rogue, but as an individual, as honest as any man; that the said M'Craw, abused the Supreme powers, drank health to the King, and after a pause, said there were many Kings, the King of Heaven, and that he had ambition enough to dethrone the Almighty, and sit judge himself; the deponent being interrogated, said that he never saw the said M'Craw before the uttering of the above expressions, and that he believed him to be sober, and in his proper senses at the time.

Robert Armistead being sworn, said, that the said James M'Craw, came into a house at Pocahontas, where the deponent was with others; that after some conversation, the said James M'Craw damned the Governor and Council, damned Gen. Washington and Congress; drank health to the King; damned himself if he had not ambition enough to dethrone God, and sit judge himself; that while the old government stood, if he got two shillings and six pence, he knew the value of it, but now money was of no value; the deponent being interrogated, said that the said M'Craw was sober and in his proper senses, and that he had never seen him before.

George Robinson being sworn, said, that he was in company with the said James M'Craw, at Pocahontas, in the county of Chesterfield, on the 14th day of June, 1780, when the said M'Craw drank health to the King, and damnation to every legislative body; that he, the said M'Craw, wished he had power to dethrone God himself, that he might; sit judge himself for that he had rather judge, than be judged; the deponent being interrogated, said, that he never saw the said James M'Craw before that day.

It appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Coleman, that he has been acquainted with the said James M'Craw 8 or 9 years, that near all that time, the said M'Craw acted as deputy sheriff in the county of Halifax, and gave general satisfaction in that office; that he is much approved by his neighbors; and that the informant always believed him to be a good whig, and never heard his attachment to the American interest disputed; that when General Greene retreated to Virginia, and came to Halifax courthouse, the said M'Craw, with the deputy clerk, applied to the informant to know what should be done with the records; and Mr. M'Craw said, that if he would give him a warrant and guard, he, the said M'Craw, would undertake to secure them from the enemy if they crossed Dan river; that the informant gave him a warrant and guard, and he, the said James M'Craw, removed the records, took care of them, and returned them, when the enemy left the county; the informant being asked, whether the said James M'Craw shewed a forwardness at that time, replied he thought he did.

It also further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Joel Watkins, that he has been acquainted with the said James M'Craw 15 or 16 years; that he never heard his principles, with respect to his attachment to the American cause, called in question; and that so far as the informant knows, the said James M'Craw is generally respected by his acquaintances.

That it also appears to your committee, from the information of Capt. Tarpley White, that the said James M'Craw had assisted him in recruiting men for the regular service; and in the year 1776, assisted him also, when the weather was very bad, in apprehending seven deserters; the informant being interrogated, said, he believed the said James M'Craw to be a good whig.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That from the evidences which have been examined before them, the information against Mr. James M'Craw, a member from the county Halifax, is so far proved as to render it necessary in support of the honor and dignity of the House of Delegates, and of the character, purity, and immaculacy,



that the representatives of the people should ever retain, that the said James McCraw be expelled from his seat in the House of Delegates.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, for allowing Charles Gratiot a sum of money; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing a town in the county of Bedford;" and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments made by the committee of the whole House, to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and some amended and agreed to; but there not being sufficient time to go through the same,

*Ordered*, That the further consideration of the said amendments be postponed, until to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do adhere to their amendment disagreed to by this House to the resolution, for allowing Charles Gratiot a sum of money; also, they do recede from their amendment, disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing a town in Bedford." And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy; for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia,'" "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" "to amend the act, 'for auditing several public claims,'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 24, 1782.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by an act, "for providing more effectual funds for the redemption of certificates granted the officers and soldiers raised by this State," it is enacted, "that all persons having claims to any part of the lands appropriated for the benefit of the said officers and soldiers, be required and they are hereby directed, to transmit authenticated vouchers of the same to the War Office, on or before the first day of January next; and if any person having such claim shall be without the State, he shall transmit the same, on or before the first day of June next, following;" and whereas, from a failure in the publication of the laws, the above recited clause may remain unknown, to many of the officers and soldiers, who are entitled to lands by the laws of this State, whereby the attainment of their just and equitable rights may become exceedingly difficult;

*Resolved*, That all claims whatever, of officers and soldiers or their representatives, to lands engaged to them by the laws of this Commonwealth, may, at any time during the continuance of the present war, be certified to the Governor and Council, and by him, to the register of the Land Office, who may issue warrants for the same; any law to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to repeal the several acts of Assembly, respecting the commissioner of the War Office, and the commercial agent.

"An act, to indemnify certain persons in suppressing a conspiracy against this State."

"An act, concerning the two legions raised by this State."

"An act, to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of British subjects into this State."

"An act, to establish a town at the courthouse in the county of Greenbrier."

"An act, to authorise the adjournment of the courts of Henrico, and of the city of Richmond, in certain cases."

"An act, to secure the estate of Maurice Wheeler to Lettice Wheeler, his wife, and four children."

"An act, concerning pensioners."

"An act, to sell certain lands belonging to the estate of William Kennon, deceased, for the benefit of his children."

"An act, to vest certain escheatable property in the children of William Short, deceased."

"An act, concerning the titles of settlers on lands surveyed for sundry companies."

The House proceeded further to consider the amendments, made by the committee of the whole House, to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for burning paper money; and for paying a sum of money to Anthony Dunlavey and Matthew Pate; and directing Thomas Moore and Simon Frazier, to pay money into the treasury; also, they have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783,'" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Stevens :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning the legion under the command of Colonel Dabney," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783,'" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a free conference be desired with the Senate, to-morrow, on the subject matter of the said amendments; and that Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "directing the money arising from the sale of John Brander's estate, to be paid to William Gill," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the resolution respecting the sales of the Accomac and Diligence galleys; and the memorial of Charles Dick to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, James Henry, Thomas Bayley and James Arbuckle, Esquires, were appointed to sell the Accomac and Diligence galleys in the year 1781, which was accordingly done, for paper money then current; and the said Thomas Bayley, was prevented, by the difficulty and danger in crossing the Bay, from lodging in the treasury, until the month of September last, the money by him received, amounting to 8,792*l.* 2*s.*; and it appearing that the money so lodged by the said Thomas Bayley, is the identical money by him received;

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer be directed to receive the said sum of 8,792*l.* 2*s.* in part of the sales of the aforesaid galleys, and grant receipts for the same.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of Charles Dick, setting forth, that he has for some time past, been employed as the director of the Public Manufactory, at the town of Fredericksburg; that the petitioner is not mentioned in the appropriation law, and therefore cannot receive payment for his services, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner whilst acting in his present capacity, ought to be considered as appertaining to the civil list, and ought to be paid as such.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, directing the auditors to liquidate the accounts of Thaddey Kelley; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That, to-morrow, as soon as the Speaker takes the chair, the names of the members of this House be called over.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia,'" "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" "to amend the act, 'for auditing certain accounts of public claims,'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, December 25, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "directing the money arising from the sale of John Brander's estate, to be paid to William Gill;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the money arising from the sale of John Brander's estate, to be paid to William Gill."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Edmondson presented, according to order, a bill "for appropriating the public revenue;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring a bill, "to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes, for the use of the United States;" and that Mr. Arthur Lee do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer pay to the directors of the public buildings, the sum of 36*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* the amount of the expense for repairs done to the Assembly rooms, out of any money in his hands.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "to oblige the delinquent counties within this Commonwealth, to make their deficiencies of men, clothing, specifics and other necessities, for the support of the army;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the resolution, for allowing Charles Gratiot a sum of money; and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, "to regulate the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to regulate the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Robert Wormeley Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes, for the use of the United States;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes, for the use of the United States;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for appropriating the public revenue;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to oblige the delinquent counties within this Commonwealth, to make good their deficiencies of men, clothing, specifics, and other necessities, for the support of the army;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Arthur Lee reported, from the committee appointed to prepare instructions to the delegates of this State in Congress, that the committee had, according to order, prepared the same, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, brass field pieces and howitzers, are immediately necessary for the militia of this State, and it is understood, that it will be advantageous to the United States, to exchange such field pieces and howitzers for heavy artillery, the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, are hereby empowered and instructed, to negotiate an exchange with the Congress of the United States, of heavy cannon for such field pieces and howitzers, with their carriages and accoutrements complete; and when they have obtained them, to concert with the Executive of this State the most immediate and effectual means of forwarding them to Virginia; and the Executive are desired to transmit to our delegates a list of such brass twenty-four and twelve pound cannon as belong to this State, for the purpose of such exchange; and also of such heavy iron ordnance as can be spared from the necessary defence of the State, by land and by water.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the said instructions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia;" "to amend the act, 'for auditing certain public claims;" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for better collecting the fees due, or to,



become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and, "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government,' being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## THURSDAY, December 26, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of rider, for sequestering into the hands of the public, the quit-rents of the proprietorship of the Northern Neck; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of rider.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections do inquire into the conduct of Mr. David Mason, a member for the county of Sussex, respecting his receiving a protection from the British army on the 19th of May, 1781; and his conduct during the time the enemy were in the vicinity of Petersburg.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmundson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive be authorised and directed, to order into the hands of such person or persons, as they may think proper, the monies arising under the law passed last session, for raising this State's quota of troops, on continental establishment, from the respective county lieutenants, and those who have not met with success in recruiting; and to vest such sums as may appear expedient, in the hands of such persons (taking proper security for the same) as in their opinion may carry the purpose of the said law into more effectual execution: *Provided always*, that measures be taken by the Executive, for the receipt of the money from the county lieutenants, in their respective counties.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, declaring that the claims of the officers and soldiers to land, may at any time during the present war, be certified to the Executive, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the instructions to our delegates in Congress; also, to the bill "to regulate the pay of the militia heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, be desired to supply the commissioners of the Navy with arms, ammunition, or any other public stores, useful in fitting vessels for the defence of Chesapeake Bay.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to the free conference, desired by this House, on the subject matter of the amendments to the bill, "entitled an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December 1783;' and have appointed managers on the part of their House, who are now attending in the conference chamber. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Mercer, Cabell, Lyne, Thruston, and Charles Carter, be appointed managers on the part of this House; and that they do immediately withdraw to meet the managers on the part of the Senate, in the conference chamber.

The managers then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met the managers on the part of the Senate, in the conference chamber, and fully discussed in free conference, the subject matter of the amendments to the bill "entitled an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December 1783;'" and having heard the reasons of the managers of the Senate on behalf of their House, in support of the said amend-

ments, had urged reasons on behalf of this House, in opposition thereto, which reasons the managers on the part of the Senate, had promised to report to their House, and to communicate to this House by message, the result of the Senate's further proceedings therein.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist on their 5th, 11th and 12th amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill entitled "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783 ;'" and recede from all the other amendments disagreed to by this House, to the said bill. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments, and the same being read ;

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments ; and do agree to the same. X

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia ;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the public printer, do immediately strike two hundred copies of the act, "concerning pensioners ;" and of an extract of the act, "for equalizing the land tax," as respects the appointment and duty of the commissioners.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy ; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth ; also, on the bills "to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes, for the use of the United States ;" "for appropriating the public revenue ;" "to oblige the delinquent counties within this Commonwealth, to make good their deficiencies of men, clothing and specifics, and other necessities for the use of the army ;" "to amend the act, 'for auditing certain public claims ;'" "for regulating the practice of Attornies ;" "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts ;" and "to amend the act, 'for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government,'" being read ; X

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 27, 1782.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia ;'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder ;

And the said engrossed clause, being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder. X

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass ; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts ;" and that Mr. Richard Henry Lee do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prentiss reported, from the committee appointed to examine and make report of such debts as ought to be paid in the commercial agent's department, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth ; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, That the accounts of Oliver Pollock, be liquidated agreeable to the recommendation of the Executive, upon the settlement made by their commissioners, Sampson Matthews and Meriwether Smith, Esquires, and paid in the manner following : 10,000 dollars immediately ; and certificates passed for the remainder of his accounts, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. to wit : 10,000 dollars payable 1st day of January, 1784 ; and 10,000 dollars payable 1st January, 1785 ; and the balance in certificates, payable in four years from the date thereof : *Provided*, that the issuing of certificates for one half of the amount of the said accounts, be postponed, until the said Oliver Pollock finds

such sufficient security as may be approved of by the delegates representing this State in Congress, for the indemnification of the States from any demands for the bills drawn by him on Penette, De Costa, Freres and Company.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be authorised and required, to receive from any person or persons whatsoever, any sum of continental money at the rate of five hundred for one, and to grant certificates payable in six years, with an interest of six per centum, for which this Assembly will provide funds for the punctual payment of; and that he do receive from any person indebted to the public in paper money, payment in the same money, at the like rate, for the balance due when reduced to specie, agreeable to the scale of depreciation.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for auditing certain public claims;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" also, to the bill "to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia,'" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Peyton presented, according to order, a bill "to revive and amend 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to revive and amend 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned;'" was read a second time, amended, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to regulate the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolutions, respecting the claims of the officers to lands; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for appropriating the public revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

On a motion made.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Elias Tintant Beauregard, praying to be reimbursed by the public, the sum of 42,000 dollars, by him advanced, for supplying the troops under the command of Lieut. Col. Montgomery, ought to be referred to his Excellency the Governor and Council, to settle.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Banks, setting forth, that in consideration of a wound, which he received whilst a soldier in the service of this Commonwealth, the Assembly did in the month of December, 1780, grant him an allowance of 300*l* which remains still to be paid; and praying that



the auditors may be empowered to audit the said allowance, and grant him a warrant in specie for the same, agreeable to the scale of depreciation; is reasonable.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Stephen Terry, praying relief, in consideration of a wound which he received whilst a soldier in the continental service, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and the same allowance made him as are allowed to other wounded soldiers.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Alexander Kilpatrick, setting forth, that he was appointed jailer of the county of Augusta, in the year 1779, and continued to act until the month of November, 1781, during which time he hath sustained great loss by the insufficiency of the fees to support the prisoners, and praying relief; ought to be referred until the next session of Assembly.

5. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Samuel Hunt, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle of the Waxsaws, whilst a soldier in the continental service; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

6. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the inspectors of tobacco, at Hobb's Hole, setting forth, that the warehouses at the said inspection, have been twice broken open without the default of the petitioners, and certain tobacco stolen thereout; and praying to be reimbursed by the public for the said loss; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

7. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Barrett, setting forth, that he is a captain of dragoons in the continental service, and at the battle of Guilford was wounded and taken prisoner, in consequence of which he lost two valuable horses; and praying that he may be paid by the public the value of his said horses, to enable him again to take the field; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

8. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Fowler, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he served as deputy clothier to this State, for which he has never received any pay, and praying relief; ought to be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the resolution respecting the claims of the officers to lands. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts;" also, to the resolution, for supplying the commissioners of the Navy with arms, ammunition, &c. and directing the Executive to order into the hands of such persons as they think proper, the money arising under the law for raising this State's quota of troops; also, they have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for adjusting certain public claims,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting certain public claims.'"

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the report from the committee of Trade, respecting Mr. Simon Nathan, which was ordered to lie on the table; and the same being twice read, was agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved,* That the petition of Simon Nathan, setting forth, that in the year 1780 he had various dealings with the then Board of Trade on behalf of this Commonwealth, who became indebted to him in the sum of 15,000 livres, for which a bill of exchange was drawn on Messrs. Penette, De Costa, Freres and Company, merchants at Nantz and Bourdeaux; that the said bill has been returned under regular protest to the petitioner; and that his said debt yet remains to be paid, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the said 15,000 livres, together with ten per centum interest and damages, and also the costs and charges of the said protest, ought to be paid the petitioner out of the fund appropriated for the commercial agent's department.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Trade; that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Allen, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the oath of the petitioner, that in the year 1780, he was appointed one of the deputy sheriffs of James City county, and early in the year 1781, proceeded to collect the different taxes then in force, to wit: The first payment of the ninety pounds tax on every hundred pounds of assessed property, the tobacco tax, and the two per cent soldier tax, amounting in the whole to 105,081*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*; that he collected the sum of 79,487*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* of which he was unfortunately plundered by the enemy; and that he hath not since recovered any part of the same.

It farther appears to your committee, from the testimony of William Word, that upon the return of Lord Cornwallis's army from the interior parts of this Commonwealth through the county of James City, they encamped upon the petitioner's plantation, previous to which, the petitioner deposited considerable sums of money, and all his books,

papers and other valuable articles, in a trunk, and committed it to the particular care of the deponent; that the deponent took considerable pains to secrete the said trunk from the enemy, without effect; for that it was found and rifled of its contents.

It farther appears to your committee, from the testimony of Gabriel Maupin, that he has repeatedly seen the petitioner put considerable sums of money into the trunk, which was committed to the care of the said William Word; and that the same was found and plundered by the enemy; he, this deponent, having also deposited therein plate and other articles to a very considerable amount, which he has not received since.

It farther appears to your committee, that the petitioner did actually collect the whole of the soldiers tax, and carried the same to the place appointed for drafting the militia of the said county of James City; and that he could not get the commissioners of the tax, to receive the same of him.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Allen, is reasonable; and that the petitioner in the settlement of his accounts with the auditors, ought to have credit for the said sum of 79,487*l*. 14*s*. 4*d*., being the sum which the enemy plundered him of.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to revive and amend an act, 'for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive and amend an act, 'for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Peyton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That when this House adjourn to-morrow, it will adjourn until the last day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner of the Navy; also, on the bills "to levy a duty on certain goods and merchandizes, and also on all prizes, for the use of the United States;" "to oblige the delinquent counties within this Commonwealth to make good their deficiencies of men, clothing, specifics, and other necessities, for the use of the Army;" "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "for the better collecting the fees due or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts;" and "to amend the act for ascertaining the salaries to the officers of civil government," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 28, 1782.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that they had, according to order, examined several others, and find them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Governor with advice of Council, be empowered and directed so soon as they shall have settled Charles Gratiots' accounts, to pay the said Gratiot the sum of 1,000*l*. for his present relief, and to grant a certificate for the remainder, to be paid in six months, with an interest of six per cent per annum.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Reid do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That fifty thousand pounds currency of this State be paid by the treasurer, into the hands of the continental receiver of this State's quota; and that the delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, be instructed to inform Congress that the weight of the southern war generally, but more particularly the oppression arising to the Commonwealth, from the extensive contributions of its citizens to the common cause in the campaign of 1781, incapacitates the State from a further compliance at present with the requisitions of Congress, for this State's quota of money necessary for the service of the year 1782; but that the General Assembly will appropriate out of the first and best revenues of the State, a sum equal to 174,000 dollars at the disposition of Congress, for the former purpose, and 290,000 dollars for the current support of the war.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Henderson reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into abuses supposed to have been committed under the allowance granted by the last Assembly, for loading 685 hogsheads of tobacco on board certain vessels belonging to the British; that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that by an agreement between Robert Morris, Esq. and George Eddy, on the part of a certain Ebenezer Coffin, a passport, and safe conduct, was to be granted by the Secretary of Congress, for one



or more vessels, to carry to New York 685 hogsheads of tobacco, to contain on an average 1,000 pounds each, for 24,000 dollars, the amount of the sales of the said Coffin, under the capitulation at York: which agreement, countersigned by the said Secretary, is dated the 30th of March last.

It farther appears to your committee, that by a resolution of Congress, dated the 30th day of May last, the members of that honorable body, who were deputed to repair to the southern States, should be authorised to make such explanations to the Legislature of this State, as they should judge expedient, relative to the agreement made between the Secretary of Congress, the Superintendent of Finance, and Ebenezer Coffin, pursuant to the 11th day of February last.

It farther appears to your committee, that in consequence thereof, and by a resolution of the last session of Assembly, the Governor was desired to give every necessary assistance for the carrying the views of Congress, and their Financier into due effect, respecting the loading and clearing certain flag vessels with six hundred and eighty-five hogsheads of tobacco.

It farther appears to your committee, from the examination of Mr. Daniel Clarke, that 905 hogsheads of tobacco, weighing nine hundred and eighty-nine thousand five hundred and eighty-five pounds, were shipped by the said Mr. Clarke in the ships New-York and Fame; that the said ships New-York and Fame, were the vessels to which passports were granted by the secretary of Congress, for loading six hundred and eighty-five hogsheads under the allowance aforesaid: that the said Mr. Daniel Clarke in justification of his proceeding, produced a letter from the Secretary of Congress, which is dated the third of May last, and which, as he informed, came to his hands on the 9th day of July, and is so by him endorsed; which said letter your committee have thought proper to insert, and is in these words following:

"Sir,—I beg leave to transmit to your care and address, two passports, one for the ship Fame, and the other for the ship New-York, to carry away tobacco for goods sold under the capitulation at York town. The persons interested have proved to my satisfaction, that they have sold goods under the said capitulation to the amount of forty-four thousand and thirty-seven Spanish milled dollars, and two thirds of a dollar; but as it cannot be ascertained how many hogsheads each of the vessels will carry, I have left a blank for the number, which I have to request the favor of you to fill up; and send me an account of the quantity shipped in each vessel; you will be pleased to procure documents to shew that the quantity shipped does not amount to more than the sums above mentioned, and that the same belong to the traders captulants at York, and no others.

"As no return has been made to me of the crew of the ship New-York, I must farther request the favor of you to have their names inserted in the margin of the passports, and send me a list of them.

I am, Sir,

Your Humble Servant,

CHARLES THOMSON.

Addressed MR. DANIEL CLARKE.

Dated May 3, 1782."

It farther appears to your committee, from the examination of Mr. Clarke, that six hundred and eighty-five thousand pounds of the said tobacco, was contracted for by Mr. Morris with Mr. Coffin; and that the residue, being three hundred and four thousand five hundred and eighty-eight pounds, was shipped on account of the said George Eddy, of Philadelphia, who is commissary of prisoners and agent for the captulants at York; and that the same was shipped for the use of the captulants only, so far as he knows; that the money for the purchase of all the said nine hundred and eighty-nine thousand five hundred and eighty-eight pounds of tobacco, was advanced or furnished by Mr. Morris; but that so much as was sufficient for three hundred and four thousand five hundred and eighty-eight pounds was on account, and at the request, of the said George Eddy; that Mr. Clarke applied to no authority of this State for leave to ship the additional quantity of tobacco by him put on board the said ships New-York or Fame.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That three hundred and four thousand five hundred and eighty-eight pounds of tobacco more than the quantity specified in the allowance of the last Assembly, has been shipped on board the ships New-York and Fame, which appears to have been for the captulants at York; and that no return thereof has been made to the Executive of this State.

*Resolved*, That the delegates of this State in Congress, be instructed to lay the above statement before that honorable body, and make report to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the public printer be amenable to the Governor, with advice of Council, who, in case of the refusal to act, or neglect of duty of the said printer, are authorised to appoint another in his room.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting certain public claims;'" and "to amend the act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;" also, to the resolution directing the treasurer to pay a sum of money to the directors of the public buildings. And then he withdrew.



Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, to whom the information respecting the conduct of David Mason, Esq. a member of this House for the county of Sussex, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, That for the purpose of perpetuating testimony, commissioners be appointed in the counties hereafter mentioned, to take depositions, as well on behalf of the said David Mason, as of the Commonwealth : that is to say, for the county of Prince George, Messrs. Edmund Ruffin, David Meade, and William Call, or any two of them ; for the county of Dinwiddie, Messrs. John Banister, Joseph Jones, and William Watkins, or any two of them ; for the counties of Greensville and Brunswick, Messrs. James Wall, William Starke, and Frederick Maclin, or any two of them ; and that they do report their proceedings therein to the House of Delegates, at the meeting of the next General Assembly.

*Resolved*, That the clerk of the House of Delegates, do transmit copies of this resolution, and the order of the House on which the same is founded, to the commissioners above mentioned.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the progress of the continental account, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

That the Solicitor had laid before them his proceedings ; that they find from the loss of the proceedings and papers of the committee of Safety, of the Council, the papers of the Auditor's Office, the former board of War, the board of Trade, and the deranged situation and loss of the old papers in the treasury, that it is utterly impracticable to state an account of specifics ; and that very few vouchers can be procured to support the money charges against the continent, prior to January, 1781, when all these papers were destroyed by the enemy.

*Resolved, therefore*, That instructions be given the honorable Virginia delegates in Congress, to move that honorable body, that their commissioners, appointed to adjust this State's account, be vested with power to allow for charges, that, from circumstantial proof, should appear reasonable.

*Resolved*, That the Solicitor, immediately proceed to state the account of expenditures, both pecuniary and specific, from the aforesaid period of January, 1781 ; and direct the vouchers in the different offices, so as that they may be referred to, as necessity may require ; and in the mean time, to collect all, and every information, that may be procured, so as to throw a light upon the account, prior to the destruction of the papers ; and for that purpose, to make inquiry into the disposal of every sum of money that may heretofore have been settled for, by the persons instructed therewith ; and to procure from all such persons duplicate accounts thereof, or such other information that may be in their power to give.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, be empowered to sell such part of the public articles now on hand, as they may think proper, and to apply the money arising from the sales, either in discharge of the debt due to the former State agent, or to such other purposes as to them shall seem best.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

Whereas, the late commissary of stores heretofore employed in the service of this State, was intended to be provided for in the appropriation act, passed the last session of Assembly, as well as other civil officers of government, but were through accident omitted ;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the warrants obtained by such assistance from the auditors for their services, be received in payment of taxes now due, or be paid by the treasurer out of the funds arising from the revenue act of the year 1782.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey :

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for liquidating and paying the accounts of Oliver Pollock. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, to whom the engrossed bill, "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts," was recommitted, be discharged from further proceeding therein.

On a motion made,

An engrossed bill, "for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the better collecting the fees due, or to be come due to the clerks of the Superior Courts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly, for their services during the present session:

To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates, per week,	-	-	£ 35
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate, do.	-	-	17 10
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, clerk of the committees of Privileges and Propositions and Grievances, per week,	-	-	15
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice and Trade, per week,	-	-	12
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, serjeant at arms of the House of Delegates, per week,	-	-	12
To Mr. William Pierce, serjeant at arms to the Senate, per week,	-	-	12
To John Creagh, William Driukard, Daniel Hicks and John Hicks, door-keepers to the House of Delegates, per week, each	-	-	4 10
To — Hicks and Thomas Paul, door-keepers to the Senate, per week, each	-	-	4 10
To Elizabeth Jones, for taking care of and keeping clean the Assembly House,	-	-	10

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be, and he is hereby empowered, to apportion the four hundred and fifty pounds allowed to the clerks in his office, in such manner as he may think just and right.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the treasurer to receive the money arising from the sale of the Accomac and Diligence galleys; also, they do agree to appoint Thomas Newton, Esq. commissioner of the Navy, without the formality of a ballot.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That Thomas Newton, Esq. be appointed a commissioner of the Navy, to supply the present vacancy in that department.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay unto the officers and wounded soldiers, who are pensioners under the law, their several pensions not exceeding six month's pay, out of the fund appropriated for the civil list establishment.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Heath do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for fixing the allowances to the officers of the present General Assembly; directing the auditors to credit William Allen in a settlement of his accounts, for a sum of money of which he was plundered by the enemy; and for paying a sum of money to Charles Gratiot, Esq. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the public printer be allowed an annual salary of seven hundred pounds, for printing the laws and Journals of both Houses of the General Assembly, civil and military commissions, government proclamations, auditors' warrants and inspectors' notes.

*Resolved*, That the Journals of both Houses of the General Assembly, be printed and delivered to each House, during the respective sessions of each Assembly, so that the Journals of each preceding day, be delivered the morning of the day following.

*Resolved*, That the public acts of each session, be printed by the end of each session, in numbers sufficient for the use of every county, as now directed by law, to the end, that the members of the respective counties may be enabled to carry the laws to their several counties.

*Resolved*, That one half of the printer's salary, shall be paid him in advance, for the purpose of procuring paper and for other contingencies; but that the other half of his salary shall not be paid until he produces a receipt to the auditors from the clerk of the Privy Council, for the delivery of fifteen copies of the laws for every county in the State, or a receipt from the representatives of any county for the number of copies directed for such county.

*Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred pounds, be paid to the present printer, for printing the Journals of October session, 1773; March, 1781; October, 1781; and May, 1782; which hitherto has not been done.

And the said resolutions being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to revive and amend an act, ‘for the better regulating and collecting certain officers’ fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned.’” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist upon their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts.” And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being again read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments, and do agree to the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Talbot do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting the public printer, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, making the public printer amenable to the Executive, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the salaries of the clerks to the treasury; respecting the abuses supposed to have been committed in loading certain British vessels with tobacco, under an allowance of the navy; for paying the assistance of the commissary of stores, out of the civil list fund; directing the treasurer to pay the pensions of wounded officers and soldiers out of the fund appropriated for the civil list; for putting Stephen Terry on the list of pensioners; empowering the Executive to sell certain public articles now on hand, and pay the debt due to the State agent, with the produce thereof; respecting the progress of the continental account; referring the petition of Elias Tintant Beauregard to the Executive; directing the auditors to grant a specie warrant to John Banks; for paying fifty thousand pounds to the continental treasurer for this State; and directing the treasurer to receive continental money, at five hundred for one. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the resolution, for making the public printer amenable to the Executive; also, they have examined several other enrolled bills and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

“An act, to confirm the sale of certain lots and lands made by Andrew Wodrow, administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, and for other purposes.”

“An act, to vest the Capitol Square, with the buildings thereon, in the city of Williamsburg, in the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the said city.”

“An act, granting pardon to Demsey Butler.”

“An act, to suspend in part the operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures.”

“An act, ‘to appoint persons to convey certain lands to Edwin Gray, and for other purposes.’”

“An act, concerning surveyors.”

“An act, to amend the act, ‘for defending and protecting the trade of Chesapeake Bay.’”

“An act, for incorporating the rector and trustees of Liberty Hall Academy.”

“An act, to repeal part of the act ‘for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land.’”

“An act, ‘for further continuing and amending the act, ‘for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds.’”

“An act, for equalizing the land tax.”

“An act, for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes.”

“An act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs.”

“An act, for establishing a town in the county of Bedford.”

“An act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, ‘for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,’ and ‘for establishing a permanent revenue,’ into one act.”



"An act, concerning the legion under the command of Colonel Dabney."

"An act, 'to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December, 1783.'"

"An act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting certain public claims.'"

"An act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

"An act, to empower the Naval officers to receive the duties in their several districts."

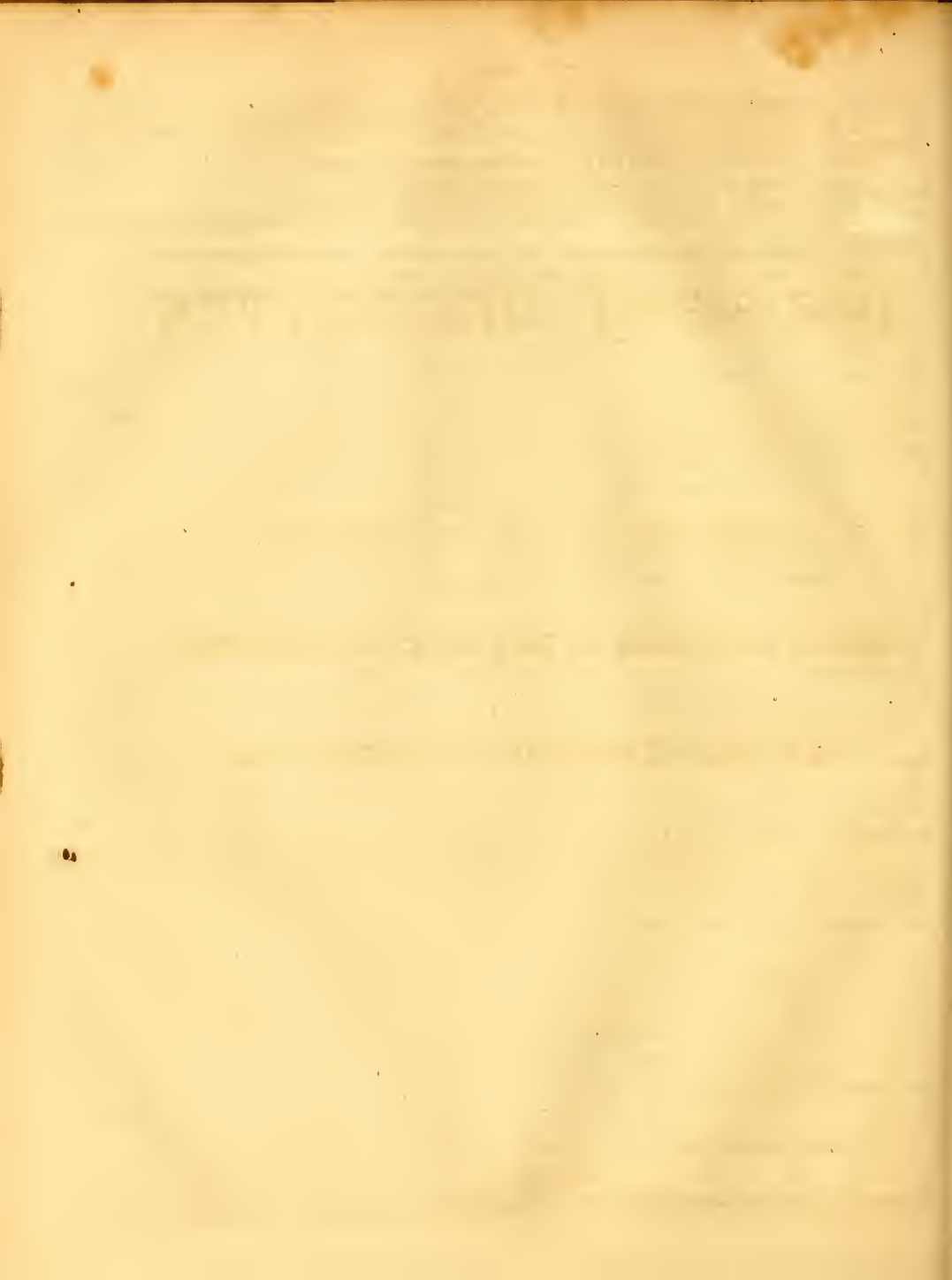
"An act, to revive and amend an act, 'for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned.'"

"An act, for the better collecting the fees due, or to become due to the clerks of the Superior Courts."

"An act, to amend the act, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia.'"

"An act, to regulate the pay of the militia, heretofore called into service, in cases not provided for by law."

And then the House adjourned till the last day of March next.



# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND,

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF MAY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE  
THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE.*

---

RICHMOND :

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

.....  
1823.



# THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN RICHARDSON

OF

THE

OF

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*BEGUN* and held at the public buildings in the City of Richmond; on Monday, the fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three :

ON which day, being the day appointed by law, for the meeting of the General Assembly, the oaths required to be taken by the delegates were administered by the Privy Council to such of the members as appeared: after which they repaired to their seats in the House of Delegates.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

TUESDAY, May 6, 1783.

The House met according to adjournment; and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

WEDNESDAY, May 7, 1783.

The House met according to adjournment; and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

THURSDAY, May 8, 1783.

The House met according to adjournment; and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

FRIDAY, May 9, 1783.

The House met according to adjournment; and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

SATURDAY, May 10, 1783.

The House met according to adjournment; and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till Monday next, 12 o'clock.

---

MONDAY, May 12, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Beckley be appointed clerk of this House.

Patrick Henry, Esq. a delegate for the county of Henry, reminded the House of the necessity of proceeding to the choice of a Speaker, and recommended John Tyler, Esq. a member for the county of Charles City, as a person who, in the discharge of the duties of that office heretofore, had given undeniable proofs of his abilities and integrity. He was seconded by George Nicholas, Esq. a delegate for the county of Albemarle.

And Mann Page, Esq. a delegate for the county of Spotsylvania, recommended Richard Henry Lee, Esq. a member for the county of Westmoreland, as a person in every respect qualified to fill that office, and was seconded by Spencer Roane, Esq. a delegate for the county of Essex.

*Resolved*, That this House will proceed to the election of a Speaker by ballot.

The House accordingly proceeded to the election of a Speaker by ballot; and having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot box, Messrs. Henry, Nicholas, Page, and Carter Henry Harrison, were nominated a committee to examine the ballot box, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then proceeded, at the clerk's table, to examine the ballot box, and reported to the House that they had, according to order, examined the same, and found the numbers thereupon to stand as follows:

For John Tyler, Esq.	61
For Richard Henry Lee, Esq.	20

So that Mr. Tyler being chosen Speaker of this House, he was conducted to the chair, from whence he made his acknowledgments to the House for the honor again conferred on him, and requested their assistance towards the maintenance of regularity and of good order.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes be appointed serjeant at arms to this House.

*Ordered*, That John Creagh, William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks and John Hicks, be appointed door-keepers to this House, and that they give their attendance accordingly.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land;" and that Messrs. Henry, Parker and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating various matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to take into their consideration the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the Governor's letter, with the enclosures, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

---

TUESDAY, May 13, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. William Cabell, Carrington, Norvell, Charles Carter, William Watkins, Wray, Garland Anderson, William Moore, Munford, Barksdale and Key; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be, from time to time, referred to them; and report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon.



to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Henry, Nicholas, Thomson Mason, Charles Carter, Lawson, Cabell, Page, Prentis, Braxton, Tazewell, Richard Lee, Carter Henry Harrison, Stuart, and Benjamin Harrison; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and to compare the same with the form prescribed by law; and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question touching returns, elections and privileges; and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, from time to time, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections to be heard at the bar of this House, or before the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do, by themselves or their agents; within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House, or by the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members, giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters objected to; and that the sitting members do, by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the lists on their parts to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Braxton, Page, Richard Henry Lee, Charles Carter, Nicholas, Prentis, Edmundson, Strother, Southall, Norvell, Parker, Stokes, Mayo, Rogers, Thomas Towles, Judkins, Thomson Mason, Carrington, Lawson, Taylor of Caroline, Taylor of Southampton, Carter Henry Harrison, Edward Carter, William Watkins, Underwood, Wilkinson, Garland Anderson, William Moore, Scott, Ronald, Kee, Cocke, Samuel Goode, Arthur Campbell, Meade, Sherwin, Barksdale, Adams, Robert Goode, Cogbill, Wray, Booker, Ross, Pendleton, Powell, Roane, Smith, Randolph, Bartlett Anderson, Collier, Cole, M'Craw, Drury Ragsdale, William Anderson, Henry Towles, Johnston, Ball, Edward Ragsdale, Joel Watkins, Cooper Kearnes, Dandridge, John Watkins, Kemp, Sanford, Lankford, Bibb, Gordon, Bullitt, Stephen Thomson Mason, Faunderoy, Hugh Innes, Crittenden, Thornton, Todd, Benjamin Harrison and Nicholas Cabell; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all propositions and grievances that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and all such propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of the House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Thomson Mason, Prentis, Lawson, Tazewell, Nicholas, Taylor of Caroline, Dandridge, Cogbill, Stuart, Roane, Bullitt, Stephen Thomson Mason, Strother, John Scasbrook Wells and Benjamin Harrison; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters relating to Courts of Justice, and such other matters as shall from time to time be referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last Session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and also, examine what laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session, or are near expiring, and report the same to this House, with their opinions which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Trade be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, Braxton, Ronald, Ross, William Watkins, Parker, Underwood, Carrington, William Anderson, John Watkins, William Moore, Garland Anderson, Taylor of Southampton, Wray, and Gilchrist; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all such things relating to the trade of this Commonwealth, and all matters that shall be from time to time, referred to them; and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances, seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections, and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to make a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmund Pendleton, be appointed clerk to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances; and Mr. Adam Craig, clerk to the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice, and Trade.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That a flag, agreeable to the recommendation of the honorable the Congress, of a proper size, be prepared for the Capitol of Virginia; and that a flag-staff be erected in the front yard of the Capitol, to hoist the said flag upon; and that the expenses attending the same, be paid out of the treasury.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wray do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to lay an embargo upon the exportation of Indian Corn for a limited time;" and that Messrs. Braxton and Edmundson, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A petition of John Dunlap and James Hayes, printers to the Commonwealth, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are solicitous for a public inquiry into the causes of delay in the execution of their duty as public printers, and are hopeful that when the want of money voted them as absolutely necessary for the discharge of their business, and the purchase of materials, the death of one, and sickness of other of their workmen, and the past difficulty of procuring materials from Philadelphia, are considered, it will tend to obviate all unmerited censure, and produce a continuance of the public favor and confidence; and praying that such inquiry may be made.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal the several acts of Assembly, for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal the several acts of Assembly, for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and agreed to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties," and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act," ought to be amended; and the collection of the said taxes postponed until the day of next.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Braxton, Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Mann Page, Taylor of Caroline, William Cabell, Strother, Dandridge, Nicholas, Benjamin Harrison, Charles Carter and Carter Henry Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and that Messrs. William Watkins, Cabell, Southall, Munford, Cole, Carrington, Gilchrist, Mann Page, Robert Goode, Garland Anderson and William Moore, do prepare and bring in the same.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, May 14, 1783.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "to make the half blood inheritable to lands and slaves, descended from, or given by their common ancestors."

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, proceed to the choice of a chaplain.

Mr. Braxton presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs."

A bill, "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Braxton, Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Mann Page, Taylor of Caroline, William Cabell, Strother, Dandridge, Nicholas, Benjamin Harrison, Charles Carter and Carter Henry Harrison.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "for the relief of sheriffs."

Mr. Braxton presented, according to order, a bill "for laying an embargo on Indian corn, for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time; and the question being put, that the same be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "to prevent the citizens of this Commonwealth from being sued out of the counties in which they reside."

*Ordered*, That the auditors of public accounts do forthwith lay before the House, a state of the present annual expenditure of the civil list establishment.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "for suspending the farther sale of confiscated property."

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an impost of five per cent. on certain goods, imported, ought to be granted to discharge certain engagements made by Congress, under proper regulations.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Mann Page, Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Taylor of Caroline, Nicholas, William Cabell, Ronald, Todd, Ross, and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That William Anderson, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act."

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled, an 'act to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;' and that Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, William Cabell, and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, May 15, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That the Governor be desired to lay before the House, the proceedings of the Executive respecting the public printer, conformable to the resolution of the 28th of December last.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by ballot to the choice of a chaplain; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot box, Messrs. Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Nicholas and Prentiss, were nominated a committee to examine the same, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, examined the ballot box, and found a majority of votes in favor of the Rev. Benjamin Blagrove.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the chaplain do compose a form of prayer, to be approved by the committee for Religion, fit and proper to be used in this House; and that it be a standing order, that divine service be performed every day, by using the said form or any other as the House may from time to time direct; and that service begin in the House immediately after the bell shall be rang for calling the House.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson be added to the committee to whom the bill "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue' into one act," was committed; Mr. Nicholas to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed, or taken for public service;' and Mr. Booker to the committee of Trade.

*Ordered*, That two seats within the House, such as Mr. Speaker shall direct, be set apart for the use of the members of the Senate.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal so much of any act, or acts of Assembly, as allows the delegates in Congress to be eligible to either House of Assembly;" and that Messrs. Nicholas and Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.



*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for clearing Dan river, and the other branches of Roanoke;" and that Messrs. Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Gen. Nelson, Joel Watkins, and Cole, do prepare and bring in the same.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, May 16, 1783:

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A bill, "for the relief of sheriffs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A petition of Joseph Carrington, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a judgment of the General Court, by which he will be greatly aggrieved, has been given against him, for the amount of his collection as sheriff of the county of Cumberland, although he had offered to the treasurer commutables to the amount of 500*l*. in part thereof, which were refused, because the auditors would not admit any receipts for the same, not contained in the attested list required by law; that all his endeavors have been ineffectual to complete his collection; and that nothing but money will discharge the said judgment, although the people are at liberty to pay him specifics at the prices allowed by law; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the relief of sheriffs."

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

In order to enable the public printer, to comply effectually with a resolution of the last session of Assembly, for so early a publication of the laws, as that the members of Assembly, may have an opportunity of conveying the public acts of each session to their respective counties, at the end of every session;

*Resolved*, That it be a standing order of the House, that henceforward when any petition or proposition of a private nature, shall be offered to the House, that although the same may be referred to the consideration of a committee, to the end that the petitioner may be heard, and the committee enabled to report thereupon: yet, that all such reports shall be laid over and undergo no discussion in the House, or determination upon the same, until matters of a public nature or general concern, if any there be depending before the House, shall have been first considered, and finally determined upon.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the resolutions of the General Assembly, of the first day of June, 1780, for borrowing money and tobacco, for the service of the United States, and to answer a requisition of Congress, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating the proceedings of the Executive, respecting the public printers; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the petition of the public printers was committed.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating several additional matters, for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read.

*Ordered*, That so much of the said letters and papers, as respects the report made to the judges of the General Court, of the present state of the records and papers in the office of the said court, be referred to Messrs. Tazewell, William Nelson, Stephens Thomson Mason, and Dandridge; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That other of the said letters and papers do lie on the table.

A petition of the trustees of the Academy of Hampden Sydney, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the increasing influence of the said Academy, and its growing importance to science, will, they hope, produce to it, the patronage of the legislature; and praying that if the circumstances of the country will not admit of any other encouragement, they may be granted a charter of incorporation.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Gen. Lawson, Richard Henry Lee, Henry, Garland Anderson and Bartlett Anderson; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A remonstrance and petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amelia, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a want of confidence in the public faith having obtained, these remonstrants are alarmed at the withholding the interest due on Loan Office certificates and other public debts; that they conceive the justice due

to individuals thus circumstanced hath been too long withheld; and proceeds rather from the want of system, than the want of ability; that the increase of the circulating medium, by rendering the public securities a negotiable property, would add new motion and vivacity to the wheels of circulation and commerce; and praying that laws may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said remonstrance and petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to suspend the sale of confiscated property; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Nathaniel Barret, an inhabitant of the State of Massachusetts, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of January last, he despatched the brigantine General Galvez, Silas Jones, master from Havanna for Baltimore; that on the entrance into the Chesapeake, the said captain finding himself surrounded by the enemy's cruisers, fled for security into York river, where he remained waiting for orders from the petitioner, judging it inexpedient to proceed up the Bay in prosecution of his intended voyage, or to risk his cargo on board his said vessel, she being hourly exposed to capture by the enemy; that he could not obtain leave to land his cargo (though in a perishing condition) without giving bond for payment of the duties; that the petitioner considers it a hardship to pay duties for such articles as are re-shipped and not sold here; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "for establishing Circuit Courts."

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly as declares the delegates to Congress eligible to either House of Assembly; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, and Henry, be added to the committee for Religion; Mr. Mayo, to the committee of Privileges and Elections; and Messrs. William Nelson, Richard Henry Lee, Henry, Henderson, Arthur Campbell, Heath, Ross and Todd, to the committee for Courts of Justice.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, May 17, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A bill, "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "for suspending the further sale of confiscated property;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as allows the delegates to Congress to be eligible to either House of Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Benjamin Harrison, and Sherwin, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to suspend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, into one act," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, be discharged from reporting from the Journals of the last session, the several petitions and propositions then depending and undetermined; and that such petitions and propositions be delivered by the clerk of course, to the proper committees.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to Isaac Dabney, out of any money which may be in his hands, one hundred and forty-nine pounds, in part for re-building the public warehouses at Page's, in Hanover town.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the resolution be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;"

General Lawson to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and Messrs. Samuel Goode and Parker, to the committee appointed to bring in a bill "for clearing Dan river, and the other branches of the Roanoke."

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for the better regulating and collecting certain officers fees, and other purposes therein mentioned.'"

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "for regulating ferries."

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics, and persons of unsound minds.'"

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies.'"

Mr. Thomson Mason reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontiers;" which will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1780, entitled "an act, for giving farther time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire on the first day of June next, ought to be farther continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;" which was continued by a subsequent act, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth;" which was continued by a subsequent act, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" which was continued and amended by a subsequent act, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be farther continued.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the auditors, enclosing a state of the public debt, funded and unfunded; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial of William Finnie, late deputy quarter-master general of the southern department, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that suits have been commenced against him in his private character, for supplies purchased for the public use; that Congress by a resolution of the 25th of February, 1782, have recommended it to the several States, to pass laws to stay execution against their servants in all such cases; and praying that an act may pass to that effect, or other relief granted him.

Also, a petition of Susanna Storrs and James Pleasants, guardians of Susanna Storrs, an infant; setting forth, that they are possessed, in right of their ward, of a tenement in the city of Richmond, which is at present unimproved and unprofitable, but may be let out to great emolument, upon building leases; and praying that they may be authorised to execute such leases beyond the term of infancy of their said ward.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial and petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Michael Gratz, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that several years ago, himself and his partner, John Gibson, furnished to Brigadier General Clarke, at Fort Pitt, sundry merchandizes to the amount of fourteen hundred pounds specie and upwards, for the use of an expedition against the Indians; for which a bond was obtained from General Clarke and Dorsey Penticost, payable three months after date, notwithstanding which, and although immediate application was made to the Executive of the State, the said goods being for public use, the petitioner has not yet received payment; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Watkins; setting forth, that he was employed by the commissioners appointed by act of Assembly, to recover tobacco in the great fresh, which service he performed by saving a considerable quantity, but has received no satisfaction for the same; and praying that a reasonable allowance may be made him.

Also, a petition of James Saudidge; setting forth, that the term for which he received a pension, in consideration of wounds received in the public service, hath expired, and he is yet unable to support himself by labor; and praying farther relief.



Also, a petition of Samuel Finley, a major in the Virginia continental line; setting forth, that he was one of the prisoners on Long Island, for whose relief tobacco was voted by the Assembly some time ago; that he has never received his proportion; and praying that it may now be paid him.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Trade; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the parish of Lynhaven, in the county of Princess Anne, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the vestry of the said parish may be dissolved, and an act pass to elect a new one.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Amherst and Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, were presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that it will be of great advantage to the petitioners, as well as of general public utility, to establish a ferry from the land of Thomas Waugh, in the county of Amherst, across the Fluvanna river, to the land of Nicholas Davis, in the county of Bedford, on the opposite shore; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill for regulating ferries; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of General Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Mann Page and Josiah Parker, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the auditors, enclosing a state of the annual civil list expenditures of government; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and other officers of the civil government."

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the support and maintenance of disabled soldiers, sailors and marines;" and that Messrs. General Nelson, Parker, Mann Page, Meade, and General Lawson, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" and on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

## MONDAY, May 19, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to lay before the House a state of the monies appropriated by his order, with the advice of Council, out of the collection made for the purpose of recruiting our quota of continental troops, agreeable to an act, "to recruit this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army."

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired to lay before the House, a state of the monies received agreeable to an act, entitled "an act, to recruit this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army," specifying the exact sums received from each county.

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the operation of an act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" was read the third time.

A motion was made; and the question being put, that the said bill be recommitted to a committee of the whole House,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating several matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, King and Queen, Fauquier and Essex, to comply with the act, "to recruit this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army;" and that Messrs. Parker, Richard Henry Lee, General Nelson, and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the constitution of the committee of Trade be changed; and that the said committee be henceforward designated the committee of Public Claims; and that they meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all public claims referred from the last to this session of Assembly, and all matters that shall be, from time to time, to them referred, together with all petitions and claims which are now depending before the said committee of Trade, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Commerce be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. General Nelson, Henderson, William Anderson, Parker, Ronald, Underwood, Gilchrist, Garland Anderson, Kearnes, Wray, Cowper, Judkins, Heath, Wells, and Edward Carter; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all such matters and things relative to the trade, manufactures and commerce of the Commonwealth, as shall, from time to time, be referred to them, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon; and also, occasionally, such improvements as in their judgment may be made in the commerce and manufactures of the State, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

A petition of William Allison and Thomson Mason, jnn. was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have erected a water mill for manufacturing tobacco snuff, which they have done at very great expense and trouble, and are apprehensive the same will be defeated by the combinations of importers of tobacco snuff, unless a duty is laid upon the importation thereof; and praying that a duty of one shilling per pound may be imposed upon all tobacco snuff, not of the manufacture of one of the United States, which shall be imported into this State.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in case of the payment of British debts, they are very apprehensive of an attempt to burthen the public, by making good the depreciated money paid by British debtors into the public treasury at nominal value, in discharge of their debts, under the sanction of an act of Assembly; and praying for the attention of the legislature to this subject.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of New Kent and James City, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under great inconvenience by the discontinuance of the inspection of tobacco at the Brick House; and praying that the said inspection may be revived.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth and on the bill "for the relief of Sheriffs," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, May 20, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

General Lawson reported, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of the trustees of Hampden Sydney Academy; that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said trustees, praying that the said Academy may be incorporated, and other encouragement given by the legislature; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that General Lawson, Messrs. Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Garland Anderson and Bartlett Anderson, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Susanna Storrs and James Pleasants, guardians of Susanna Storrs, an infant, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Susanna Storrs and James Pleasants, praying that they may be authorised to lease a certain tenement in the town of Richmond, the property of their ward,



the said Susanna, to George Pickett, for the term of ten years, to be binding on the said Susanna, for so much of the term as may be unexpired, on her arriving to the age of twenty-one years, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That the said report do lie on the table.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be desired to adjust and settle the accounts of Brigadier General Muhlenberg, for the monies received by him at the request of the Executive for the recruiting service, and for the pay and subsistence of the officers of the Virginia line; and that in the settlement of this account, the balance of four thousand six hundred and forty-two pounds ten shillings, unappropriated by him for those services, be credited in his account according to the sum in his hands, without charging any depreciation on the same.

And the said resolution being twice read, was ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Hay be appointed clerk to the committee of Commerce.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to vest the Gun Factory at Fredericksburg, and the public lands belonging thereto, in trustees, for the purpose of establishing an academy;" and that Messrs. Mann Page, Richard Henry Lee, and Banister, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town;" and that Messrs. General Nelson, Prentiss, Thomas Smith, and William Nelson, jun. do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Thomas Smith, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he became security for the rent of a house in the city of Richmond, for the use of the quarter-master's department, and is threatened with a suit at law for the same; that he has applied to the Executive to exonerate him therefrom, who, though disposed so to do, have no fund out of which to pay the said rent; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Frederick Warneck; setting forth, that he was appointed chief engineer of this State, with the rank of Colonel, in the year 1777; but upon presenting his claim to the auditors of public accounts, they have refused to allow him the quantity of land allowed to officers of his rank, from a doubt that his case does not come within the law giving such bounty; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James McClurg, late physician general, and director of the Hospitals in this State; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Andrew Ronald; setting forth, that he became possessed of sundry certificates issued from the auditor's office, for money payable out of the military fund, one of which was for 145*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* bearing date the 20th of December, 1782, payable to John Robertson; that he has casually lost the said certificates, or they have been stolen from him; that he applied to the auditors to renew the said certificates to John Robertson, which they do not consider themselves authorised to do; and praying that the auditors may be empowered to renew the said certificates, upon his entering into bond with sufficient security, to indemnify the State against the former one.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A representation of William Pope, sheriff of Jefferson county, was presented to the House, and read; stating, that on the day appointed by law, for holding the election in the said county, the sheriffs were prevented from attending by the inundation of the waters; that the people assembled without the sheriffs, and elected two delegates to represent them in General Assembly, whom they are desirous should receive the sanction of this House.

*Ordered*, That the said representation be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Daniel Clarke, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is much distressed for want of the money due to him from the public, and which the Assembly in their session of December, 1781, ordered payment of; and praying that he may now receive a moiety, or fourth part thereof, and be allowed an interest of six per centum on the balance till paid.

Also, a petition of Matthew Watts Hatton; setting forth, that in the year 1777, he entered into the service of the State as an artificer, and from the public want of tools, was induced to furnish two chests of tools, his own private property; that the said tools were taken by the enemy, and totally lost, the petitioner having never received any satisfaction for the same; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Peyton; setting forth, that the pay allowed him as clothier general of the line of this State, in the continental army, has been greatly inadequate to his expenses and service; that his two assistants have never been allowed or received any pay; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Philip Timberlake; setting forth, that being the father of fourteen children, himself aged and in poverty, he has lost several sons in the service of his country, added to which a distressed son-in-law, who was drafted into the service, and returned sick and disabled with his wife and four children, have been thrown upon the petitioner for support; and praying relief from the public.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Isle of Wight, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the reason of discontinuing Warrasqueake warehouse, for the inspection of tobacco in the said county, on account of its exposed situation to the enemy, having ceased by the return of peace, it will be of great public utility to revive the same; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.



*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that early in the war they advanced to the public considerable sums of money on loan, and received certificates for the same; that by an act of 1778, those certificates were called in and others granted them, bearing date only at the time of their emission, whereby, upon a settlement by the scale of depreciation, the petitioners will be considerable sufferers; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and General Nelson reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Heath have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Braxton, Banister and Ross, be added to the committee of Commerce; and Mr. Norvell to the committee of Claims.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" and "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, May 21, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections, into one act;" and that General Lawson, General Nelson, General Stevens, Messrs. Parker, Meade, Nicholas, Banister, Drury Ragsdale, Stuart and Thruston, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing the proceedings of the Executive on a memorial of Bartholomew Dandridge, stating a complaint against John Price Posey, a justice of the peace for the county of New Kent; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table.

*Ordered*, That the said report and resolutions do lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to repeal the act, 'for seizure and condemnation of British goods found on land,' with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the resolution respecting the accounts of Brigadier General Muhlenberg to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Brigadier General Muhlenberg, in the settlement of his accounts with the auditors, for monies received by him at the request of the Executive, for the recruiting service, ought not to be charged with the depreciation on 4,642l. 10s. prior to the month of April, 1781; it appearing to the committee, that the said sum was a balance which remained in his hands unappropriated, until the said month of April; from which period depreciation ought to be charged on the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A memorial of Joseph Scott, John Stokes, Samuel Selden and Willis Wilson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are disabled officers who have received wounds in the service of their country; and praying to receive the benefit of an act, "for giving full pay for life, to wounded and disabled officers."

Also, a petition of Simon Nathan; setting forth, that he is in great distress, and has suffered much injury in his mercantile credit, for want of the money awarded to be due to him from this State, by referees appointed for that purpose in Philadelphia; and praying that he may now receive a reasonable proportion of his claim, and be allowed an interest of six per centum for the balance, until paid.

Also, a petition of Major John Belfield; setting forth, that he some time since advanced a sum of money for public service at the request of the then Governor, his accounts for which have been duly passed, and a warrant on the treasurer granted for the same, but that there is no fund out of which he can procure payment; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Robertson; setting forth, that he has considerable arrears of pay due to him as inspector commissary of issues, and for sundry advances made by him, as well as for contracts for the public service, and has been subjected to suits at law; and praying that his accounts may be liquidated, and relief granted him.

Also, a petition of Caleb Tate; setting forth, that in the year 1780, a considerable quantity of whiskey was impressed from him for the use of the army; that the county court before whom he presented his claim for said whiskey, valued it at twelve shillings per gallon, and that a late law has fixed the price at four shillings per gallon, by which he will be a great loser, inasmuch as he was at great expense in the transportation thereof; and praying relief.

*Ordered.* That the said memorial and petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of the officers of the Virginia line in continental service, on behalf of themselves and the soldiers of the said line, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that fully satisfied of the attention of the legislature to their past requisitions, they are induced to represent the inequality and insufficiency of the bounty of lands intended for them, as well as the particular distress of the soldiers, and their inability to survey the said lands; that in the same confidence they hope proper funds will be provided for the redemption of the certificates granted them for pay and depreciation; and praying that the Assembly will adopt measures for their present relief, as well as to execute the former promises and intention of the legislature in their favor.

Also, a memorial of the officers of the Illinois regiment, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that upon the conquest of that country, a gratuity of lands was promised them; that by the cession of the said country to Congress, a reservation is made of 150,000 acres for that purpose; and praying that they may be authorised to locate the said land, and establish a town on the northwest side of the Ohio river, opposite to the town of Louisville.

Also, a petition of William Shannon, Patrick Kennedy and Zephaniah Blackford; setting forth, that they are staff officers in the Illinois regiment, and conceive themselves equally entitled with the officers in the line of the said regiment, to a bounty of lands; and praying that such bounty may be extended to them.

Also, a petition of Richard Gaines; setting forth, that he has lost or had destroyed, a certificate for militia service, and a warrant for provisions furnished the army; and praying that the said certificate and warrant may be renewed.

Also, a petition of John Holland; setting forth, that he was respited by the last Assembly, until the present session, from the execution of a sentence of death for treason; and that fully sensible of the lenity of his country, no person having yet suffered for the said offence, he is induced to hope for mercy; and praying that a pardon may be granted him for the same.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that a mill-dam, erected by Jacobus Early, over Goose creek in the said county, has created an obstruction to the passage of fish, to the great detriment of the petitioners; and praying that an act may pass for clearing the stream of the said creek, and preventing any obstruction to the passage of fish.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Princess Anne, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that it will be of great advantage to the trade and inhabitants of the said county, to have a town established at Kemp's landing; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered.* That the said memorials and petitions, be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that thankfully acknowledging the attention of the legislature in granting them a court of General Judicature, they have confidence that their further reasonable petitions, for the good of that remote settlement, will be favorably heard; and praying that an act may pass to regulate their militia; to dispose of the orphans of poor people; respecting estrays; and to authorise the solemnization of the rites of matrimony, by some civil power.

*Ordered.* That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Princess Anne, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that it will be of great utility to the public, and advantage to the petitioners, to revive the inspection of tobacco at Wilkinson's, in the said county; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered.* That the said petition do lie on the table.



The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as declares the delegates to Congress eligible to either House of Assembly;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court, to settle and adjust costs;" and "to suspend the operation of the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties,' and 'for establishing a permanent revenue,' into one act," being read:

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## THURSDAY, May 22, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as declares the delegates to Congress eligible to either House of Assembly;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as declares the delegates to Congress eligible to either House of Assembly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Gen. Stevens:

4 Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting the accounts of Brigadier General Muhlenburg. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating sundry matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to several letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read.

*Ordered*, That the letter from the delegates of this State in Congress, be referred to the committee of Commerce.

*Ordered*, That the extract of the letter from Richard Kidder Meade, Esq. be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered*, That all other of the said letters and papers do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Claims, be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Simon Nathan, to them referred; and that the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the information of William Pope, sheriff of the county of Jefferson, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, for the said county of Jefferson, was illegal; and that a writ ought to issue for electing delegates to represent the said county in this present General Assembly.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table.

*Ordered*, That the said report do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;' and that Messrs. Henderson, Ronald, Prentiss, Strother, Braxton and Daudridge, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the petition of sundry persons respecting Loan-Office certificates, granted them for monies lent the public, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;' that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to lay before this House, a state of the money due by the Loan Office, calculating the value thereof in specie, by the table of depreciation, and including the interest due thereon, until the first day of the present month.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, be added to the committee, appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to



amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections, into one act;" and Messrs. Thomas Smith, Lankford, Kee and Ragsdale, to the committee of Claims.

A petition of Lieutenants John Steel, Luke Cannon and Samuel Baskerville, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they received considerable sums of paper money for the recruiting service, which not being able to apply in that service, they offered to return to the treasury; but the same was refused, without the petitioners would pay depreciation upon the said money, which they think unreasonable; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Walker Baylor; setting forth, that being a lieutenant of cavalry, he received a wound in his foot by a cannon ball at the battle of Germantown, which has disabled him from the use thereof in a great degree, and also affects his leg; that the expenses attending his cure have been very considerable; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to suspend the operation of the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" and "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, May 23, 1783.

Another member having taken the oaths required by law, took his seat in the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for providing a flag, agreeable to the recommendation of Congress. And then he withdrew.

A petition of Daniel Boatright, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has incurred great expense in curing, and providing for a wounded soldier, who came to his house on the retreat of Baron Steuben, from the Point of Fork; and praying that he may be made compensation for the same.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Adcock, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Benoni Boatright, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Cunningham; setting forth, that in June, 1780, her husband marched with the militia from Cumberland county to South Carolina; that she has never heard of him since the battle of Camden, at which time she is apprehensive he was slain; and that she is much distressed, and with a family of small children; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of King George, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the warehouses for the inspection of tobacco at Boyd's Hole and Machodack, in the said county, which were united by a late act of Assembly, may be separated and established distinct inspections.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Northampton, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the warehouses for the inspection of tobacco at Nasswaddock's in the said county, which were discontinued by a late act of Assembly, may be revived.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions do lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts do not issue warrants under the 4th section of the act of the last session of Assembly, entitled "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting certain public claims,'" until provision shall be made by this Assembly for the more equitable settlement of the warrants heretofore issued for paper money.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

General Nelson reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a clause of the letter from the delegates of this State in Congress, of the 13th instant, to his excellency the Governor, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That it be recommended to the members of Congress of this State, in the instructions they are about to give to our plenipotentiaries abroad, respecting a treaty of commerce to be entered into by them with Great Britain, that it is the desire of the legislature of this State to act upon liberal and

generous principles, allowing to that nation the same advantages in point of commerce, which they are willing to allow us, reserving to ourselves the right of giving any bounty in tonnage or otherwise, to vessels built within this State.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said report be referred to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said report; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Cabell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said report under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates from this State to Congress, be instructed that the legislature approve a treaty of commerce with Great Britain upon principles of reciprocity, desiring however, that no treaty of commerce between these States, and any power whatsoever, may be finally concluded on, before the same shall have been sent to Congress for approbation, and the different States have had an opportunity of considering it; that in the mean time the legislature approve of a provisional treaty with Great Britain, whereby the commercial intercourse between the two countries may be facilitated.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be desired to lay before the House, an account of all debts due from the public within the department of the Executive.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to prohibit intercourse with, and admission of, British subjects into this State;' and that Messrs. Henderson, Henry and Richard Henry Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to prohibit the return of certain persons to this State;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Carter Henry Harrison, Ruffin and Everard Meade, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Thomas Hayes, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he intermarried with Martha, daughter of James Hayes, deceased, who by his last will and testament, devised four slaves to a certain Elizabeth Holder, during her natural life, and after her decease, to be equally divided between James and Franky Holder, illegitimate children of the said Elizabeth; that the said Franky Holder is since dead without issue, and being illegitimate can have no heir by the laws of this Commonwealth, whereby the said slaves will escheat to the Commonwealth; and praying that an act may pass to vest the said slaves and their increase, in the petitioner and the said Martha.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing returns of monies received under the late recruiting law, and appropriated by the Executive; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and General Nelson reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, again to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to suspend the operation of the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" and "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, May 24, 1783.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the enrolled bills:

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, William Watkins, Banister, Prentis, Bullitt, Stephens, Thomson Mason, and Nicholas Cabell.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:



MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, giving instructions to the delegates of this State in Congress, respecting a provisional treaty of commerce with Great Britain. And then he withdrew. 4

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, sundry petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Bellfield; setting forth, that some time past he did, at the request of the then Governor Jefferson, advance the sum of 158*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* for equipping and clothing Col. White's regiment of light dragoons; that his accounts for the same have been passed by the auditors, and a warrant granted him, but there is no fund out of which, he can procure payment, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the treasurer ought to pay to the petitioner the said sum of 158*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* out of any public money in his hands.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Joseph Scott, John Stokes, Samuel Selden, and Willis Wilson, praying that they may be allowed full pay for life, as officers who have been disabled and wounded in the service of their country, is reasonable; and that the petitioners ought to receive full pay for life from the public.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Lieutenants John Steel, Luke Cannon and Samuel Baskerville; setting forth, that in the month of November, 1781, they severally received from the pay-master of this State, a considerable sum of paper money for the recruiting service; that finding themselves unsuccessful in that business, they did, in a short time afterwards, tender the money so advanced them, to the pay-master in Richmond, who refused to receive it, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to give the petitioners credit for the said money without depreciation; and that the treasurer ought to receive the same into the treasury.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of John Peyton, as prays that an allowance may be made him in addition to his salary as clothier-general of this State, which has been greatly inadequate to his services, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that some allowance may be made to William Fowler, who acted as an assistant to the petitioner, and for whom no provision has heretofore been made, is reasonable; and that the said William Fowler ought to be allowed the sum of sixty pounds per annum, during the time that he was employed in that service; and that the auditors ought to grant him a warrant accordingly, after deducting the clothing and money which have been advanced him by the public.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said petition, as prays that some allowance may be made to John Tebbs, who also acted as an assistant to the petitioner, be rejected; it appearing to the committee that the petitioner was only authorised to appoint one assistant.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Elizabeth Adcock, praying that an allowance may be made her in consideration of the trouble and expense which she incurred in attending and curing a soldier, by the name of Jesse Salmon, who was wounded at the battle of the Waxsaws, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 6*l.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Walker Baylor, praying that some provision may be made for him, as an officer, who has been disabled and wounded in the service of his country, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to receive from the public half pay for life, as a captain of dragoons.

The 1st and 3d resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution was read a second time, and ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th resolutions were severally read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly "as allows the delegates to Congress to be eligible to either House of Assembly;" also, to the resolution that the auditors suspend issuing warrants for impressed property. And then he withdrew. 4

*Ordered* That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from farther proceeding on the extract of a letter from Richard Kidder Meade, Esq. to them referred.

Mr. Henderson, presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, entitled, an act to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal an act, entitled, an act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, Everard Meade, Thomas Smith, Nicholas, General Lawson, Strother, and Arthur Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill to prohibit the return of certain persons to this State.

Mr. Richard Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, inspected an enrolled bill to them referred, and found it to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bill to the Senate for their inspection.



*Ordered*, That Mr. Wallace be added to the committees of Propositions and Grievances and Courts of Justice; Mr. Hunter to the committee of Claims; Mr. Wilson Miles Cary to the committee of Privileges and Elections; and Messrs. James Campbell and Breckenridge, to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have inspected an enrolled bill, and find it to be truly enrolled, and their Speaker hath signed it. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker then signed the following enrolled bill:

“An act to repeal the several acts of Assembly for seizure and condemnation of British goods, found on land.”

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, in conformity to the seventh article of the provisional treaty of peace between Great Britain and these United States, it was among other things provided, that all the slaves and other property of the citizens of the same should be restored; and the commander of the British forces, in several instances wherein this State in particular is greatly interested, hath delayed to comply with the said article:

*Resolved*, That commissioners be authorised and empowered to demand a restoration of all slaves and other property, belonging to the citizens of this State; and in case it should be necessary, the said commissioners are to apply to Congress for any further authority on this subject.

And the said resolution being twice read, was ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive be requested to lay before the General Assembly, an account of all monies paid into the Loan Office of this State, under “an act for sequestering British property, enabling those indebted to British subjects to pay off such debts, and directing the proceedings in suits where such subjects are parties;” specifying the particular periods at which the different payments were made.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A petition of Leighton Wood, jun. was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that upon his removal from the board of auditors, to the office of Solicitor, his salary was reduced, and made less than the auditors, by one hundred pounds per annum; that he conceives the duty of Solicitor equally great, and to require not less trouble and attendance than the duty of an auditor; and praying that the difference in salary heretofore, may be made good to him, and the salaries of the said officers in future, be made equal.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Daniel Du-Val, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that the auditors have refused to grant him the necessary certificates to obtain the bounty of land due to him as an officer of the Virginia line, in continental service, although he is accounted for as such, in this State's quota; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Morton, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that the Auditors have refused to grant him a quietus for his collection of taxes, as sheriff of Charlotte county, although he has paid the full amount thereof, into the treasury, because the petitioner could not take the oath which the law requires; that the list of payments by him received for taxes, did correspond with the receipts given: such receipts being given before the petitioner knew of the law; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for the relief of sheriffs.”

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to suspend the operation of the act to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill “to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Tuesday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “for the relief of sheriffs;” “to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;” and “to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, May 26, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A bill, "to repeal the act, entitled an act, to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution directing the treasurer to discharge a warrant granted to John Bellfield, out of any public money in his hands. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said bill be amended by striking out the word "November," and inserting the word "October" in lieu thereof, it being the period to which distress to be made for the public taxes, pursuant to the said bill, was proposed to be limited;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes

48

Noes

62

On a motion made by Mr. Mann Page, and seconded by Mr. Henderson;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes, on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Zachariah Johnston, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, John Breckenridge, Archibald Stewart, Robert Gilchrist, John Taylor of Caroline, William Green Munford, Joel Watkins, French Strother, George Booker, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, John Barker, William Pickett, David Ross, John Powell, John Crittenden, Isaac Coles, Turner Southall, William Norvell, William Nelson, jun. John Scasbrook Wells, Josiah Parker, Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. William Anderson, Caleb Wallace, Stephens Thomson Mason, John Carter, John Kearnes, John Bowdoin, John Thornton, William Moore, Arthur Lee, John Fauntleroy, John Taylor of Southampton, Mann Page, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter, Richard Cocke, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell, Joseph Prentiss and Henry Tazewell.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, William Cabell, Nicholas Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, Andrew Meade, Dickinson Barksdale, John Ward, Thomas Collier, Robert Goode, George Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, George Ward, Spencer Roane, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, James M'Craw, Elias Poston, Abraham Hite, Bartlett Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innis, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Carter Braxton, Drury Ragsdale, Thomas Johnson, jun. Henry Stokes, Edward Ragsdale, Thomas Pettus, Samuel Goode, Maurice Smith, William Curtis, James Campbell, John Watkins, William Dandridge, jun. Isaac Avery, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, Robert Lawson, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, jun. Benjamin Harrison, Alexander Scott Bullitt, Charles Campbell, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Abraham Bird, John Rogers, Thomson Mason, Gray Judkins, Sterling Harwell, Wilson Miles Cary and Thomas Nelson, jun.

*Resolved*, That the said bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the Executive to cause the several acts of the General Assembly, subsequent in date to the revival in the year 1769, and the ordinances of Convention, which are now in force, to be collected into one code, with a proper index and marginal notes; that copies of this code be printed in sufficient numbers for the use of the several county courts; that they be covered with paste-board; and that the Executive be empowered to defray the expense of this collection, and of printing the same, out of any monies in the treasury.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Taylor presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for farther continuing the several acts of Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Gen. Nelson presented, according to order, a bill "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book debts;" and that Messrs. Tazewell, Hunter, Parker, Richard Henry Lee, and Braxton, do prepare and bring in the same.



The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the members of the Privy Council or Council of State, reciting the reasons upon which they founded the advice of Council to the Governor, upon the complaint against John Price Posey, a justice of the peace for the county of New Kent; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "to prohibit the return of certain persons to this State;" be discharged therefrom.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" and "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, May 27, 1783.

A bill, "for farther continuing several acts of Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town at public expense;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to repeal the act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday.

A petition of John Brownlow, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being one of the militia of the county of Augusta, he was draughted and joined General Morgan; and at the battle of the Cowpens received a wound in his head, in effecting a cure of which, he has incurred considerable expense; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Captain Nathaniel Fox; setting forth, that he entered early into the army; and at the action at Brandywine unfortunately received two wounds, which have deprived him of the use of his left arm; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Poage; setting forth, that being sheriff of the county of Augusta, he proceeded to execute the act of October, 1777, "for laying a public levy;" but finds that the respective proportions allotted him to pay to public creditors, greatly exceeds the amount of his collection: added to which, the inhabitants of the county of Monongalia, considering themselves as no longer belonging to this State, but to the state of Pennsylvania, have refused to pay their proportions; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill, "for re-forming the county courts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Isaac Avery, be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A petition of Charles May, sheriff of Buckingham county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that notwithstanding the utmost exertions of himself and his deputies, he has been prevented from completing his collection of the taxes for the last year; in consequence of which, a judgment was given against him by the General Court, for the balance due upon his collection; and praying to be relieved from the damages and costs incurred by the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the relief of sheriffs."

A petition of the Honorable James Monroe, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in January, 1776, he entered into the third Virginia regiment as a Lieutenant; that at the close of the campaign he was promoted to a Captaincy, and from that post advanced to the rank of a Major in Lord Stirling's family, in which he continued till the latter end of February, 1779, and then withdrew from the army, in consequence of an arrangement, which deprived him of any further prospect of promotion; that he was afterwards appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of a regiment in the service of this State, and acted some time in that capacity; and praying that he may be allowed a bounty in lands, and the depreciation of his pay, whilst he was in service.

Also, a petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the city of Williamsburg; praying that they may be authorised to raise by way of lottery, a sum not exceeding one thousand and fifty pounds, for the purpose of repairing the public buildings vested in the corporation of the said city, by an act of the General Assembly at their last session; and setting forth, that they labor under many difficulties from a want of power in the Court of Hustings to receive probats of wills and deeds, and to grant administrations; and praying that the said Court of Hustings may be empowered to receive probats of wills and record the same, to grant administrations, and



to admit deeds to proof and record; and praying also, that they may be empowered annually to raise a sufficient sum of money for the payment of the salaries of the officers appointed to keep the peace of the said city.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Parker be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to continue the act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State."

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs," "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" and "to amend the several acts of Assembly for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, May 28, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

An engrossed bill, "for farther continuing several acts of Assembly;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for further continuing several acts of Assembly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson Mason do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "for clearing Dan river and the other branches of the Roanoke;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Holland, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the petition of the said John Holland, praying that an act of Assembly may pass to liberate him from his confinement, and to absolve him from the sentence of death passed against him by the General Court; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill a bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to prepare and bring in a bill "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates, in certain instances."

A petition of Richard Clough Anderson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in September, 1781, he was appointed by the Executive, adjutant general of the militia then in service, with the rank of colonel; that he has since made application to the auditors to liquidate his accounts for his services whilst acting in that capacity, who have refused to make him any allowance for the same, alleging that they are not authorised by law so to do; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Barnett; setting forth, that in the years 1780 and 1781, he had the command of three companies of militia; the pay rolls for which he settled in the month of September, 1781, and received the money, which the men have since refused to accept, because of the depreciation of the same; and praying that the auditors may be empowered to grant him specie certificates for the pay of the said three companies, upon his paying the money he received, into the public treasury.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the auditors of public accounts having stated, that the sum of fifty-three pounds twelve shillings, is really due to Doctor William Brown, for his services in the continental army in the year 1776, which they do not think themselves authorised to allow;

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed to issue a military warrant to the said Doctor William Brown, for the aforesaid sum of fifty-three pounds and twelve shillings, with interest due thereon.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer pay to George Harmer, agreeable to the auditor's warrant, the sum of two hundred pounds, out of any unappropriated money in his hands, or to be in his hands.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the resolution be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal so much of an act, entitled 'an act, to suspend in part the operation of the act, 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, and for other purposes,' as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants on the treasurer in favor of George Harmer; and that Messrs. John Taylor of Caroline, Henry, and Carter Henry Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to indemnify all officers of the continental army, or others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military operations;" and that Messrs. Arthur Lee, Edmundson, and General Stephens, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas Cabell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

A memorial of Francis Taylor, colonel of the late regiment of guards, on behalf of himself and the officers and soldiers of the said regiment, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the said regiment was raised by a resolution of Assembly of the 19th of December, 1778, taken upon continental establishment by a resolution of Congress of the 9th of January, 1779, and disbanded in the month of June, 1781; that the said regiment never received any pay, but in depreciated paper money; and praying that the pay of the said regiment may be made good in the same manner with that of other troops in the service of this State; also stating that the memorialist, from five years service in the army, first as a major in the continental line, and then as colonel of the said regiment, conceives himself entitled to the half pay of a colonel; and praying that such half pay may be made good to him.

Also, a memorial of the officers of the State line, on behalf of themselves and the soldiers of the said line; setting forth, that they are in the same predicament with the officers and soldiers of the Virginia continental line, with respect to their claim to the bounty of land, and deficiencies of pay and rations; and praying that the same advantages may in both cases be extended to them, and to the officers, marines and seamen, belonging to the State Navy, as shall be given to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia continental line.

*Ordered*, That the said memorials be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and the other officers of civil government;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" and "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town at public expense," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, May 29, 1783.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of the officers of the Virginia continental line, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to continue and amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of attornies;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for clearing Dan river and the other branches of Roanoke;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

*Ordered*, That General Nelson have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Friday se'night.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting recruiting money in the hands of Lieutenants Steele, Cannon and Baskerville. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act,'" with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Prentiss reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday, to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same being severally twice read and considered, some were agreed to, others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That the farther consideration of the said bill, with the amendments, be postponed till to-morrow.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating the debts due from the Executive department; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, containing information of the approach of a considerable part of Colonel Baylor's regiment of cavalry, from the southern army to this State, in a disorderly manner, and without their officers; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Executive be desired to request General Morgan, attended by such officers as he may think necessary, and a commissary, to meet the soldiers of Baylor's regiment of cavalry, now on their march from the southward to this State; that such officers as may be necessary in the opinion of General Morgan, take command of the said troops, until other measures can be taken by the Executive, for their future provision; and that the Executive be empowered to draw on the treasurer for such a sum of money, out of the fund created by the recruiting law, as may be necessary for the support of the said troops to Winchester, or any other post the Executive may think proper; the said money to be delivered to, and disbursed by, the said commissary, for that purpose, he rendering an account of such disbursements to the Executive.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to enable the General Court, to settle and adjust costs;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town at public expense;" and "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That the report from the committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the relief of sheriffs," be postponed till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## FRIDAY, May 30, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for clearing Dan river and the other branches of Roanoke;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for clearing Roanoke river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to continue and amend an act, entitled an act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to vest the Gun Factory and public lands at Fredericks-



burg, in trustees for the purposes of an academy;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Parker presented, according to order, a bill "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fanquier and King and Queen, to comply with the act, entitled 'an act, for recruiting this State's quota of troops, to serve in the army of the United States;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands and slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for farther continuing and amending an act, entitled an act, 'for giving farther time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by General Stevens:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the soldiers of Colonel Baylor's regiment of cavalry. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston be added to the committee for Religion.

A petition of George Watkins, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that early in the year 1777, he was employed as a pilot to the schooner Jenny, in the service of this State, on a voyage to Saint Eustatius, and in the month of May following, the said vessel was captured by a British man of war and sent to England, where he was confined until the month of March in the year 1780; and praying that such allowance may be made him for the time he was in captivity as may be thought reasonable.

Also, a petition of Peter Mason, jun.; setting forth, that in the year 1780, being one of the militia under the command of General Clarke, on the Western side of the Ohio, he received a wound in his left arm, which has disabled him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Thomas Gowry Tyler, administrator with the will annexed of Henry Tyler, deceased, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that his father, the said Henry Tyler, deceased, was entitled to 5,696 pounds of tobacco for public services by him performed, as clerk of the county of Stafford; but before the said tobacco could be levied, a division between the counties of Stafford and King George took place; that he has since applied to the courts of both the said counties, but the difficulty of settling the proportions to be paid by each county, has prevented him from receiving any part of the said tobacco; and praying that the Justices of the county of Stafford, may be empowered to levy the said tobacco on the tithables of the parishes of St. Paul and Overwharton.

Also, a petition of Paul Woolfolk; setting forth, that in October, 1781, he was allowed by the General Assembly, the sum of 100*l*. specie, for his services as an assistant to the agent appointed to settle the accounts between this Commonwealth and the United States, but not being included in the law for appropriating the public revenue, his warrants are not payable in the taxes imposed by the revenue act; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Walter King Cole; setting forth, that in the month of April, 1776, he was appointed a surgeon in the Navy of this State, in which capacity he acted until June, 1777, when he was appointed surgeon to the first State regiment; that he continued in that office until the month of November, 1778, when his private affairs requiring his attention, he resigned; and after an interval of two or three months, again entered into the service in the hospital department; that, under the present laws of this State, he is not entitled to the bounty of lands, because he did not serve as a regimental surgeon three years, although he was much longer in service in the different capacities in which he acted; and praying that he may be put upon the same footing with regimental surgeons, who have served three years.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A bill, "for farther continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, for giving farther time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A memorial of Gabriel Jones, a member returned to serve in this House, for the county of Rockingham, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that at the time of his election, he acted and still acts as deputy attorney for the Commonwealth, in the counties of Augusta and Rockingham, and is doubtful whether such offices may not be deemed lucrative under the constitution, and deprive him of his seat; and praying that the same may be inquired into.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers, to penalties or disabilities, for non-juring;" and that Messrs. Henry, Gabriel Jones, and Stevens Thomson Mason, do prepare and bring in the same.

A memorial of the ministers and messengers of the Baptist Association, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that while they rejoice at the prospect of liberty and independence, which the return of peace has pro-

duced, they conceive themselves oppressed by the operation of the laws, respecting vestries and marriages; and praying that the said laws may be revised and amended.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do agree to the following order:

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, do inquire into the subject matter of the information laid before this House at the last session, against James M'Craw, a member of this House, for the county of Halifax: upon which information, the said James M'Craw was then expelled his seat in the House.

The said order being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill "for the relief of certain settlers on the western waters, who may be affected by a decree of the High Court of Appeals."

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal so much of an act, entitled 'an act, to suspend in part, the operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, and for other purposes,' as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants on the treasurer, in favor of George Harmer; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resumed the consideration of the amendments, reported from the committee of the whole House, to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and the same being severally twice read, some were agreed to, and others amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer do pay to the continental receiver, out of the first money that may come to his hands, the balance due of the 50,000*l.* directed to be paid by a resolution of the last session of Assembly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmondson, be added to the committee of Privileges and Elections; and Mr. Moore to the committee for Courts of Justice.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments agreed to on Wednesday last, to the bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and together with the said bill, ordered to be recommitted to the committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting the western frontier, and referring to several letters and papers enclosed upon the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York to level the works around the said town at public expense;" and "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, May 31, 1783.

A bill, "to vest the Gun Factory and public lands at Fredericksburg in trustees, for the purposes of an Academy;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Mann Page, Richard Henry Lee, and Banister.

A bill, "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier and King and Queen, to comply with the act, entitled 'an act, for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands and slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "to repeal so much of an act, entitled an act, 'to suspend in part the operation of the laws, concerning

escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants on the treasury in favor of George Harmer;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to alter the place of holding courts in the county of Brunswick;" and that Messrs. William Cabell, James Mason and Andrew Meade, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by the act passed the last session of Assembly, entitled "an act, for equalizing the land tax," the auditors were directed (upon receipt of the books into their office) to issue warrants to each of the commissioners for the sum of three hundred pounds, but did not fix the fund out of which the same should be paid; and it may be a considerable time before the commissioners can receive that compensation for their trouble, which the legislature intended upon the completion of their work.

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said warrants be received and discharged by the treasurer in the same manner as the warrants issued to the officers of civil government.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Thomas Rose and John Furbush Turner, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of January, 1777, a small schooner, the property of the petitioners, was impressed for the purpose of transporting part of the ninth Virginia regiment from the county of Accomac to the Head of Elk; that on her return, she was captured by the enemy, and the auditors have refused to make them any allowance for the said vessel, alleging that they are not authorised by law so to do; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Francis Smith; setting forth, that in the year 1778, he received a commission and sum of money of the then Governor, to recruit men for the army, with an allowance of ten shillings per day; that being unable to recruit any men, he offered to return the money to the auditors, who refused to allow him any thing for his services; upon which he deposited the said money in the Loan Office; that the auditors have lately recovered a judgment against him for the same, in the General Court; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Moss; setting forth, that in the year 1776, he served as an armourer to the third Virginia regiment, and furnished a set of tools, which have since been taken into the public service, and for which, as well as for his services, he has never received any satisfaction; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Brannen; setting forth, that while he was an artificer in the service of the United States, he lost the use of one side by hard labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Michael Kinsier; setting forth, that while a soldier in the second Virginia detachment under General Greene, he received two wounds, which have disabled him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Robert Aldridge, and Jane his wife, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that the said Jane is only sister to Thomas Hadden, deceased, of the county of Middlesex, whose estate has become escheatable to the Commonwealth, although the same has been entered upon, and is possessed by persons having no claims thereto; and praying that an act may pass to vest the said estate in the petitioners, with a reservation in favor of any person having a better legal title.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

A petition of William Fannulero, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that an act of the last session to vest certain lands in ——— Robinson, an infant son and heir of William Robinson, deceased, wholly precludes the petitioner's legal claim to the said estate, and goes to his utter disinheritance therein; and praying that the said claim may be inquired into, and the said act revised, so as to give him relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas William Ballendine, son and heir of John Ballendine, deceased; setting forth, that he is apprehensive of great mistakes in the settlement of accounts by commissioners, on behalf of the public, and his deceased father; and that the balance of pig iron charged to be due to the public is mistated; and praying that the said accounts may be re-settled, and a further time given for paying the pig iron due to the public.

Also, a petition of Tarlton Woodson; setting forth, that he served as a major in a regiment of the continental army, for which this State has received credit in its quota, but has been refused by the auditors the bounty of lands; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have been much injured by the operation of the laws of tender during the existence of paper money; and praying that an act may pass to make good the depreciation in certain cases, particularly of the widow and orphan.

Also, a petition of Walker Tomlin; setting forth, that the main road in the county of King William, to the late bridge across Pamunkey river, in the town of Newcastle, runs through the lands of the petitioner, from whence a ferry is kept to the land of Nicholas Syme, wholly to the enolument of others, and greatly to the loss and injury of



the petitioner; and praying that he may be permitted to keep a ferry, or build a bridge across the said river, and exact a toll for crossing the same.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, in the county of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they labor under great inconvenience for the want of a regular police; and praying that the trustees of the said town may be empowered to lay taxes, regulate markets and remove nuisances, for the benefit of the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

An address of the ministers and messengers of the Baptist Association, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that notwithstanding the joy which is diffused amongst them on the return of peace and the happy establishment of our independence; they think they have some reason to complain, as the laws respecting vestries and marriages are peculiarly oppressive upon them; and praying that the said laws may be revised and amended.

*Ordered*, That the said address be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Richard Randolph, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1776, he delivered to Lieutenant Richard Taylor, at Sandy Point, two hundred and forty barrels of flour, and one hundred bushels of bran, agreeable to a contract made with the commissary of the troops, stationed on the south side of James river; that he hath since made repeated applications for payment of the same, but could not obtain it; and praying such compensation may be made him as may be thought reasonable.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill “to suspend the operation of the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.’” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill “granting pardon to John Holland;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Parker presented, according to order, a bill “for establishing an infirmary for the receptacle and support of aged and wounded soldiers;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cabell presented, according to order, a bill “to alter the place of holding courts in the county of Brunswick;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for clearing Roanoke river.” And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of Albemarle Sound;” and that Messrs. Parker, Henry, Kearnes, Godwin and Braxton, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Johnson, jun. have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se’night.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;” “to amend the several acts of Assembly giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;” “to repeal the act, ‘to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;’” “to enable the trustees of the town of York to level the works around the said town at public expense;” “to repeal the act, ‘declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;” and “for farther continuing and amending the act, ‘for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,’ being read:

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o’clock.

## MONDAY, June 2, 1783.

Several other members, having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

An engrossed bill, “to repeal so much of an act, entitled ‘an act, to suspend in part, the operation of the act, concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;’ as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants on the treasurer, in favor of George Harmer;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends

in part the operation of the act, concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants upon the treasurer, in favor of George Harmer."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for establishing an infirmary for the receipt and support of aged and wounded soldiers;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "granting pardon to John Holland;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to alter the place of holding courts in the county of Brunswick;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Cabell reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the parish of Lynhaven, in the county of Princess Anne, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that the vestry of the said parish may be dissolved; and that an act may pass for electing a new one; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the ministers and messengers of the Baptist Association, setting forth, that they conceive themselves much aggrieved and oppressed from the operation of the acts concerning vestries and marriages, and praying that the said acts may be revised and amended; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill, or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Religion, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" and that Messrs. Newton, Kearnes, Parker, Richard Lee, Henderson, Braxton, Booker, Wray and Cowper, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Newton, Wills and Cowper, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river, to Albemarle Sound;" and Messrs. Zane, Roane, Stephens Thomson Mason, and Edmondson, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to confirm certain proceedings of the court of Cumberland county;" and that Messrs. Carrington, White, and William Cabell, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Thursday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress, to serve one year from the first Monday in November next; and also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of General Lawson, who hath resigned.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee to whom the bill, "to vest the Gun Factory and public lands at Fredericksburg, in trustees, for the purposes of an Academy," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of Civil government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following order:

*Ordered*, That no petitions be received after Tuesday se'night.

And the question being put thereupon;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the order be rejected.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust

costs;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York to level the works around the said town at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" and "for continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, June 3, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to alter the place for holding courts in the county of Brunswick;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to alter the place for holding courts in the county of Brunswick."

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Cabell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to vest the Gun Factory and public lands at Fredericksburg, in trustees, for the purposes of an Academy;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to vest the Gun Factory and public lands at Fredericksburg, in trustees, for the purposes of an Academy."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to continue and amend an act, 'for the relief of certain persons, now resident on the western frontier;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "to legalize certain proceedings of the county court of Cumberland;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of John Morris, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being a soldier in the continental line, he received a wound in his shoulder at the battle of Camden, which has disabled him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Mackrell; setting forth, that being a soldier in the service of this State, he received a wound in an action in the State of Georgia, which deprived him of his arm, and rendered him incapable of labor; that he has since been allowed a pension of twelve pounds per annum, which is by no means adequate to his support; and praying such further relief as may be thought reasonable.

Also, a petition of Samuel Barron Cunningham; setting forth, that in the month of February, 1781, he had on board the brigantine Wilkes, then lying in James river, a considerable quantity of tobacco, twelve guns and other military stores and provisions; that being ready to pursue her voyage to the West-Indies, she was impressed by order of the Executive, for the purpose of assisting some French ships then in Hampton road, and detained in the public service twenty-seven days, before the expiration of which time a British fleet arrived in the river, and she fell into their hands, and was sunk, with her cargo, &c. on board, where she lay a considerable time, and was at length raised, with the entire loss of her cargo and rigging, and much damage to the hull; and praying such compensation may be made him as shall be thought reasonable.

Also, a petition of Andrew Green; setting forth, that while a soldier on the Western frontier, he received a considerable hurt in one of his legs, which incapacitates him from labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Daniel Trueheart, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is possessed of the lots in the city of Richmond, whereon the warehouses called Byrd's now stand, and by law is precluded from building thereon, so as to obstruct the prospect of streets which terminate at the said tenement; and praying that he may be authorised to build thereon, without any restriction.

Also, a petition of George Evans; setting forth, that he performed the duty of surgeon to Baylor's regiment of cavalry a few months short of the term of three years, until obliged to leave the service by a dangerous wound; and praying to be granted the full bounty of lands granted to surgeons.

Also, a petition of sundry officers of the Virginia line, whose names are thereunto subscribed, on behalf of the soldiers of the said line; setting forth, that the said soldiers have been greatly injured by insidious persons obtaining their certificates for pay and bounty at considerable discount; and praying the attention of the legislature to remedy this evil on their behalf.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Mecklenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that a ferry hath been heretofore kept from the land of Sir Peyton Skipwith, at the confluence of the rivers Dan and Staunton, which is now discontinued; and praying that an act may pass to establish a ferry at the said place.

Also, a memorial of the Mayor and Commonalty of the town of Fredericksburg; setting forth, that the act "for establishing fairs in the said town," hath expired; that their present court day interferes with that of Culpeper, and



that doubts and difficulties have arisen respecting the jurisdiction of the said court, and the regulation of the town militia; and praying that acts may pass to remedy the inconveniences arising therefrom, and to place the inspections of tobacco at Royster's and Fredericksburg, under the direction of the said court.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Ohio, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they find it impossible from their exposed situation, the ravages of the Indians, and great scarcity of specie, to comply with the law for raising a revenue; and praying that they may be exempt from the payment of taxes, until some of those difficulties are removed; and that the time allowed them for returning their surveys to the Land Office, which will shortly expire, may be farther continued.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.'"

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Gabriel Jones, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Gabriel Jones, being a deputy attorney for the Commonwealth for the county of Rockingham, at the time of his election, was incapable of being elected a delegate to represent the said county in this present General Assembly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, do inquire into the several cases of Mr. Alexander White, a member of this House for the county of Frederick; Mr. Drury Ragsdale, a member of this House for the county of King William; and Mr. John Crittendon, a member of this House for the county of Fayette, respecting their ineligibility as members of this House; the former by reason of being deputy attorney for the Commonwealth in the said county of Frederick, at the time of his election; and the two latter in holding military commissions in the army, at the time of their respective elections.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers to penalties or disabilities for non-juring," to receive a clause or clauses, to exempt the Menonists from the same disabilities that the Quakers and non-jurors are subject to.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate the clerks of the county courts;" and that Messrs. Zane, Strother, and Gabriel Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors do furnish this House with an account of the number and amount of the certificates granted to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, belonging to the Virginia line.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to repeal so much of an act 'to suspend in part the operation of the act 'concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, and for other purposes, as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants on the treasurer in favor of George Harmer.'" And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to proceed by joint ballot with this House, on Thursday next, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress, and of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Edmundson, and Joel Watkins, be added to the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

Mr. Braxton reported, according to order, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday, to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the memorial of the officers and soldiers of the State line, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for farther continuing several acts of Assembly," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

Also, to the resolution directing the treasurer to pay warrants granted to the examiners, under the bill "for equalizing the land tax, out of the civil list fund." And then he withdrew.

A petition of the trustees in whom certain lands in Kentucky were vested for a public school, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the act by which they are established, is greatly inadequate to the purpose for which it was intended, no provision being thereby made to supply vacancies in the trustees, to declare what number may act, or to authorise the trustees to receive donations; and praying that the said act may be amended.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the prayer of the said petition; and that Messrs. Wallace, Avery, Gabriel Jones, Alexander White, and Thruston, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing further returns of the county lieutenants under the recruiting law; and also a state of British debts paid into the treasury; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring a bill "to lay an impost on certain goods, for the use of Congress," be discharged therefrom.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills, "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;'" "to enable the trustees of the town of York to level the works around the said town at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;'" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;'" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;'" "for granting pardon to John Holland;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 4, 1783.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for altering the place for holding courts in the county of Brunswick." And then he withdrew:

A message from the Senate by General Stevens:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to vest the Gun Factory at Fredericksburg, and lands thereto adjoining, in trustees, for the purposes of an Academy." And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, giving salaries to the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly, and other officers of civil government."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontier;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to legalize certain proceedings of the county court of Cumberland;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Carrington, Alexander White and William Cabell.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate the wages of the delegates of this State in Congress;" and that Messrs. Zane and Nicholas, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of William Reynolds, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of April, 1780, he was appointed by Col. Porterfield, commander of the State troops, (then on their march to join the southern army,) conductor of military stores, and acted in that capacity until the month of April, 1781; and that he hath never received any compensation for his said services; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Richard Evers Lee, administrator of Samuel Allyne; setting forth, that the said Allyne died considerably indebted to several citizens of this State, and did not leave sufficient effects to pay the same; and praying that the sum of two hundred and ninety-nine pounds, with interest thereon, may be paid out of the estate of Andrew Sprowle, who was indebted to him to that amount, and whose estate has been confiscated.

Also, a petition of William Peachy; setting forth, that he received sums of paper money from the county lieutenant of Richmond, and another gentleman, to pay into the public treasury, and place to the credit of their accounts with the Commonwealth, but owing to accident the same were not so paid and credited, being afterwards paid into the treasury and funded; and praying that the said monies may be now credited as first intended.

Also, a petition of John Groom; setting forth, that being one of the militia from the county of Orange, he lost his right leg, in consequence of a wound, which has rendered him incapable of procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the churchwardens and vestry of the parish of Elizabeth river, in the county of Norfolk, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the interruptions occasioned by the frequent invasions of the enemy, have prevented their applying a sum of money voted them by the General Assembly, for the purpose of re-building the church, and other buildings of the said parish, which were destroyed by order of the Convention, until the depreciation of the said money has rendered it of little value; and praying that they may be authorised to raise a sufficient sum for that purpose, by way of lottery.

Also, several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Henry and Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniencies from the situation and great extent of the said counties; and praying that part of the county of Henry may be taken off and added to a part of the county of Bedford, and made a distinct county.

Also, sundry petitions of the inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed; in opposition thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

“An act, for clearing Roanoke river.”

“An act, to suspend the operation of the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.’”

“An act, to repeal so much of an act, entitled ‘an act, to suspend in part the operation of the act, ‘concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, and for other purposes, as empowers the Governor and Council to draw warrants on the treasurer in favor of George Harmer.’”

“An act, to repeal so much of any act, or acts of Assembly, as declare the delegates to Congress eligible to either House of Assembly.”

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “for farther continuing several acts of Assembly;” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to continue and amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine,’ so far as relates to the inspection of tar, pitch and turpentine; and that Messrs. Cowper, Godwin, Newton, Wills, Parker, and John Taylor of Southampton, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Henry presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill “to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill “to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers, to penalties or disabilities for non-juring;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, a memorial and several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of William Finnie, late deputy quartermaster general for the southern department, praying that an act may pass for suspending executions upon judgments obtained, or to be obtained against him, for contracts entered into as a servant of the public; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to take proper steps for procuring and transmitting to the Executive of this State, copies of all the



accounts and vouchers relative to disbursements and contracts made with the individuals of this State, by any person acting under the authority of Congress, in order that a proper inquiry may be made into their conduct.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Andrew Ronald, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be authorised and directed to issue and deliver to the petitioner, a certificate of like import with one issued in the name of John Robinson, bearing date the 20th day of December, 1782, for the sum of 128*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* payable out of the military fund, which certificate was casually lost by the petitioner, is reasonable; upon his entering into bond with sufficient security to indemnify the State against the former certificate.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Dunlap and James Hayes, praying an inquiry into their conduct as public printers, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That as the said Dunlap and Hayes, have met with insurmountable difficulties in executing the duties of their office, as printers to the Commonwealth, and having given assurances of performing their duty with punctuality in future, they ought to be continued public printers.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Dixon, praying that the treasurer may be directed to issue another certificate of equal value with, and the same date of, the one destroyed by the enemy in January, 1783, is reasonable: the said Dixon previously making oath that he hath lost such certificate, and giving bond and security to the treasurer to indemnify the State.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Frederick Warneck, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same bounty of lands as is given by law to a lieutenant colonel.

The 1st, 2d, 4th, 5th and 7th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d and 6th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henry do carry the 2d, 4th, 5th and 7th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Benoni Boatright, praying that some compensation may be made him for the trouble and expense which he incurred in attending and boarding two sick soldiers, by the names of John Fortune and William Mullins, who were left at his house on the retreat of Baron Steuben's army from the Point of Fork, and remained with him thirty-seven days, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 5*l.* 2*s.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Elizabeth Cunningham, praying some relief from the public, in consideration of her being left in very distressed circumstances, occasioned by the death of her husband, who was killed at the battle of Camden, whilst a soldier in the service of this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 10*l.* for her present relief.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Daniel Boatright, praying that some compensation may be made him for the trouble and expense which he was at in nursing and boarding a wounded soldier, by the name of Samuel Taylor, who was left at his house on the retreat of Baron Steuben's army from the Point of Fork, and remained at the petitioner's house seventy-nine days, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 12*l.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Brownlow, praying to be reimbursed the expense which he incurred in effecting the cure of a wound which he received at the battle of the Cowpens, whilst a soldier in the service of this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 3*l.* 3*s.* being the amount of the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Caleb Tate, setting forth, that in the year 1780, he had impressed from him in the State of South Carolina, a considerable quantity of whiskey, for the use of General Stevens's brigade of Virginia militia, which he had transported there at great expense and trouble; that the county court of Bedford, before whom he presented his claim, allowed him twelve shillings per gallon for his whiskey; and that a late law has fixed the price at four shillings per gallon, by which he will be a great loser, because of the great expense which he was at in the transportation of his whiskey, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the court of the said county of Bedford, ought to ascertain the expense which the petitioner was at in transporting his whiskey from this State to the place where it was impressed; and make report thereof to the auditors, who shall issue their warrants accordingly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Poage, setting forth, that as sheriff of Augusta county, he did, in the year 1778, proceed to carry into execution an act of Assembly, which passed in October, 1777, entitled "an act, for laying a public levy;" that he finds the respective proportions allotted him to collect and pay to public creditors, greatly exceed the amount of his collections, and praying relief; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Leighton Wood, jun. setting forth, that upon his being removed from the board of auditors, of which he was a member, to the office of Solicitor, his salary was made equal to that of an auditor of public accounts; since which, the salaries of the officers of civil government have been altered, and his salary made less than the auditors by 100*l.* per annum; that he conceives the duty of

Solicitor equally great, and to require not less trouble and attendance than the duty of an auditor, and praying relief; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Barnett, setting forth, that in the years 1780 and 1781, he commanded three companies of militia from the county of Amherst, who performed their several tours of duty, the pay rolls for which, he settled in the month of September, 1781, and received the money, which the men have since refused to accept, because of the depreciation of the same, and praying relief; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Richard Clough Anderson, setting forth, that in September, 1781, he was by the Executive, appointed adjutant general of the militia then in service, with the rank of colonel; that he has since made application to the auditors to liquidate his accounts, who have refused to make any allowance for his said services, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to grant the petitioner military warrants for the sum of 96*l.* 7*s.* being the amount of his account against the State for his services as adjutant general aforesaid.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 6th and 9th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 5th and 7th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, amended and agreed to by the House.

The 8th resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th and 9th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be ballotted for, as delegates to represent this State in Congress for one year from the 1st Monday in November next; and also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Gen. Lawson, who hath resigned.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Zane do carry a list of the persons so nominated to the Senate.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. John Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered,* That the bill be engrossed, and read the third time.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Randolph, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday se'night.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate the wages of the delegates of this State in Congress;" and that Messrs. Zane and Nicholas do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Zachariah Johnston, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for re-forming the County Courts."

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a return from the commissioners of the Navy; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House proceeded to consider sundry resolutions, reported from the committee of Claims, of the 21st, 22d, and 24th of May, which lay on the table; and the same being again read at the clerk's table, are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Watkins, setting forth, that in the year 1771, he was employed by the commissioners, appointed by act of Assembly, to recover tobacco carried away by the great fresh; that he performed the said service, by saving a considerable quantity of tobacco, for which he has received no satisfaction, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner, ought to be allowed and paid the sum of 26*l.* 10*s.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Barrett, setting forth, that he was appointed a captain of dragoons in the continental service, and at the battle of Guilford, was wounded and taken prisoner; in consequence of which, he lost two valuable horses, and praying that he may be reimbursed by the public for his said loss; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Sandidge, setting forth, that in consequence of a wound, which he received at the battle of Brandywine, he was allowed by a former Assembly, a pension of 24*l.* per annum, for the term of three years, which expired in the month of October, 1781, that he is still unable to support himself by labor, and praying farther relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and his allowance to commence from the said month of October, in the year 1781.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Philip Timberlake, praying that an allowance may be made him for the trouble and expense, which he incurred in attending and supporting a sick soldier, by the name of Benjamin Mann, for the term of twelve months, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 13*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Daniel Clarke, setting forth, that by a resolution of the General Assembly, passed in the month of November, 1781, the then commercial agent, was directed to pay him the amount of his demand against this State, being 34,981 dollars in specie; that there still remains due



to the petitioner, the sum of 7,296*l.* and by reason of his not having been able to receive the same from the treasury, he has been put to great distress and inconvenience, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the treasurer ought to be directed to pay the petitioner the sum of 1,824*l.* being one-fourth part of his debt now remaining unpaid, and that an interest of six per centum per annum, ought to be allowed on the balance, until the same shall be discharged and satisfied.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Samuel Hunt, praying that some compensation may be made him in consideration of several wounds, which he received while a soldier in the continental service, and which have rendered him incapable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 12*l.* for his present relief, and that he ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of John Peyton, as prays that an allowance may be made him, in addition to his salary as clothier general of this State, which has been greatly inadequate to his services; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that some allowance may be made to William Fowler, who acted as an assistant to the petitioner, and for whom no provision has heretofore been made, is reasonable; and that the said William Fowler, ought to be allowed the sum of 60*l.* per annum, during the time that he was employed in that service; and that the auditors ought to grant him a warrant accordingly, after deducting the clothing and money, which have been advanced him by the public.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said petition, as prays that an allowance may be made to John Tebbs, who also acted as an assistant to the petitioner, be rejected; it appearing to the committee, that the petitioner was only authorised to appoint one assistant.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Elizabeth Adcock, praying that an allowance may be made her, in consideration of the trouble and expense which she incurred in attending and curing a soldier by the name of Jesse Salmon, who was wounded at the battle of the Waxsaws, is reasonable; and that the petitioner, ought to be allowed the sum of 6*l.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Walker Baylor, praying that some provision may be made for him as an officer, who has been disabled and wounded in the service of his country, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to receive from the public, half pay for life, as a captain of dragoons.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 5th resolution was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The 11th resolution was read a second time, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 3d, 4th, 6th, 8th and 10th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Peter Heron, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is a subject of his most Christian Majesty, and master of the brigantine Lark, lately arrived in James river, and after entering his vessel with the Naval officer, did, from his ignorance of the law and the mistake of his interpreter, proceed to break bulk, without having paid the duties; in consequence of which, his said vessel has been seized, and claimed as a forfeiture to the Commonwealth; and praying relief.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen and approve the conduct of the people of Boston, in refusing admittance to the loyalists, and are of opinion that so much of the preliminary treaty with Great Britain, as provides for the return of those people, and for the payment of debts due to the subjects of Britain, is impolitic and oppressive, and ought not to be complied with; and praying that the legislature may reject such parts of the said treaty, and adopt some efficacious mode for the payment of public and private debts.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the said petition do lie on the table.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Francis Taylor, colonel of the late regiment of guards over the Convention prisoners, in behalf of himself, the other officers, and the soldiers of the said regiment, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read. and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from a certificate of James Wood, colonel of the 8th Virginia regiment, that the said Francis Taylor, being a junior major, became a supernumerary officer, by the arrangement at White Plains, in September, 1778.

It also appears to your committee, that the said Francis Taylor was, on the 24th day of December, in theyear 1778, appointed and commissioned a lieutenant colonel of the battalion of volunteers, to guard the British prisoners; that on the fifth of March, following, he was appointed and commissioned colonel of the said regiment, and continued in the service until the month of June, 1781, when the said regiment was disbanded.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the memorial of the said Francis Taylor, as



prays that the depreciation of pay of the officers and soldiers of the said regiment may be made good, in the same manner as is provided by law, in the case of other troops raised for the defence of this State; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the memorial of the said Francis Taylor, as prays that he may be allowed half pay for life, and the bounty in lands given by law to a colonel in the continental service; be rejected

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Francis Taylor, ought to be allowed the same emoluments, advantages and bounties, as are given by law to any officer holding the rank of major in the State line.

The 1st and 2d resolutions, being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That the 1st resolution be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court, to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" and "for granting pardon to John Holland," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, June 5, 1783.

Mr. Henderson reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Peter Heron, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Peter Heron, setting forth, that being a subject of his most Christian Majesty, and entirely unacquainted with the laws and language of the country, he arrived in James river on the 27th ultimo, master of the brigantine Lark, and proceeded to break bulk, without having entered his said vessel; that in consequence thereof, she was seized by the marshal of the admiralty as a forfeiture, and praying that he may be permitted to enter his vessel, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be permitted to enter his said vessel upon paying the customary duties, office fees, and the expenses of the seizure.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Commerce, do prepare and bring in the same.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause, for fixing the allowances to the commissioners and their clerks, was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service."

*Ordered,* That Mr. John Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to continue and amend the act, 'for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontier;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontier."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers to penalties

or disabilities for non-juring;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to legalize certain proceedings of the county court of Cumberland" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for the inspection of hemp;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Arthur Campbell, Zane, Zachariah Johnston, Andrew Moore, Hite, Stuart and General Stevens, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of David Jackson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of April, 1776, he entered into the Virginia line, as a serjeant, and has since acted as an issuing commissary and quarter master to Gen. Woodford's brigade, with which he was taken in Charlestown, and detained thirteen months as a prisoner; and praying that he may be allowed such a gratuity in lands, as his services may merit.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the Justices of the court of Monongalia county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that since the extension of Mason's and Dixon's line, they have been destitute of a courthouse; and praying that the same may be established by an act of Assembly at the house of Zachariah Morgan, in the said county.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the prayer of the said petition; and that Messrs. Zane, Alexander White, and Warman, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress; and of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York to level the works around the said town at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" and "for granting pardon to John Holland," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, June 6, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to legalize certain proceedings of the county court of Cumberland;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass, and the title be, an act "to legalize certain proceedings of the county courts of Cumberland and Lunenburg."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress, for one year from the first Monday in November next; and the members having prepared tickets, with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Mann Page, Thruston, Alexander White, Wilson Miles Cary, Edmundson, Stephens Thomson Mason and Zachariah Johnston, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Hardy, John Francis Mercer, Arthur Lee and James Monroe, Esq's.

The House proceeded in like manner, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Joseph Jones, Wilson Miles Cary, and Strother, were nominated a



committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of William Short, Esq.

Mr Newton presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henderson presented, from the committee of Commerce, according to order, a bill "concerning Peter Heron, a subject of His Most Christian Majesty;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also they have agreed to the several resolutions, for making compensation and paying certain sums of money to William Fowler, John Brownlow, Philip Timberlake, Elizabeth Adcock, William Sandidge, Samuel Hunt, Daniel Boatright, and Benoni Boatright; also, to a resolution, for making compensation to Caleb Tate for a quantity of whiskey impressed for the use of the army, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from George Matthews, Esq. colonel of the third Virginia regiment, enclosing an account of monies advanced by him to several officers of the ninth Virginia regiment, whilst prisoners in New-York and Long Island; and requesting that the same may be reimbursed him with interest, and charged to the said officers; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Claims.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the treasurer be directed to pay immediately to the continental receiver, out of the money placed in his hands by the Executive, under the act "for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States," the sum of 15,000 dollars, if so much there be, after the expense of furnishing the horses belonging to the southern army, now on their march through this State to Winchester, shall be paid; and that the treasurer be further directed to sell all the crop tobacco in his hands, and pay the proceeds of the sales to the continental receiver, towards the discharge of the 50,000*l.* directed by the last session of Assembly. But as the sale of tobacco at this time when the price here is so inadequate to the value of that article in all other parts of the world, would disable this State from fulfilling the promise made to Congress at their last session;

*Resolved,* That the treasurer do not sell the tobacco of the best quality under forty shillings for every hundred weight, and that of inferior quality at prices proportionable thereto; that no debts due in tobacco to individuals be paid until the obligation of the State to Congress above mentioned shall be discharged; and that the treasurer do make payments to the continental receiver, in manner above directed, of all monies and tobacco which may be received under the revenue law from delinquent sheriffs, until the full sum of 50,000*l.* as aforesaid shall be paid.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor, with advice of Council, ought to be empowered to cause as many men, not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_, with proper officers, to be enlisted as guards for public service, for so long a time as the Executive may deem necessary, until application shall be made to Congress by the delegates of this State, for such a number of the soldiers of the line of this State, enlisted for three years, as may be necessary for this purpose.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That all lands granted as bounties to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, ought to be clear of all expenses, except the register's fees for warrants; and the bounties to the officers on the said establishment, ought to be granted them clear of all expenses, the surveyor's fees, and fees of office excepted: *Provided, always,* that where any transfer has been made of such land, the person or persons to whom such transfer shall have been made, shall pay the expenses attending the locations and surveys of the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That certain and adequate funds ought to be assigned for paying the annual interest of the certificates issued to the officers and soldiers; and that the principal ought to be charged on the said funds, to be discharged in seven yearly payments: the first to be made on the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and \_\_\_\_\_; and that for this purpose a duty of \_\_\_\_\_ per bushel, ought to be paid on all salt imported into this State, by land or water; also, a duty of \_\_\_\_\_ pence per gallon on all spirits and wine, imported by land or water; also \_\_\_\_\_ shillings per hogshead on each hogshead of tobacco, to be paid by the exporter at the custom-house; also \_\_\_\_\_ on every hundred pounds of hemp; \_\_\_\_\_ on every hundred pounds of cordage; and \_\_\_\_\_ by the gallon on all malt beer imported into this State.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d and 4th resolutions; and that Messrs. Ronald, Richard Henry Lee, Joseph Jones, Henry, Carter Henry Harrison and Gabriel Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.



*Ordered*, That the 3d resolution do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the treasurer to pay a sum of money to the continental receiver. And then he withdrew.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hanover, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are much alarmed at the prospect of admitting to an equal participation of the rights of citizenship, natives of America, who took part with Great Britain in the late contest, and who resided in the British dominions, without giving some assurance of attachment to America; those persons who in the hour of danger left America alone to combat British oppression, and those against whom the statute staple of Edward III. was in force; and praying that the return of all such persons may be inhibited.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal the act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens."

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Augusta and Rockbridge, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that there are within the said counties, two large tracts of land, known by the names of Beverley's and Burden's tracts, which have lain neglected and uncultivated for a considerable time, and for which the proprietors have not paid any taxes; and praying that the same may either revert to the Commonwealth, or that the said proprietors may be compelled to pay all arrearages of taxes now due thereon, and also the annual tax to which it shall be assessed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens,'" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army;" "for granting pardon to John Holland;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands and slaves, descended from, or given by their common ancestors;" and "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, June 7, 1783.

A bill, "for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Newton, Kearnes, Richard Lee, Henderson, Braxton, Booker, Wray and Cowper.

Mr. Parker presented, according to order, a bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of Albermarle Sound;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Anthony Tucker Dixon, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has served upwards of six years as a surgeon and apothecary, in the hospitals, and with the troops in the service of this State; and that upon inspecting the laws he finds he is not allowed either the depreciation of his pay or the bounty in lands, allowed regimental surgeons who have served three years successively; and praying that he may be put upon the same footing with them, both with respect to the depreciation of his pay and bounty of lands.

Also, a petition of Richard Kidder Meade; setting forth, that in September, 1775, he was appointed a captain, and had the command of a company until the year 1777, when he was appointed an aid-de-camp to his excellency General Washington, with the rank of a lieutenant colonel; that he continued in that post until October, 1780, and then resigned his captaincy, in order to make way for officers of merit; and although he was always considered as a lieutenant colonel, and if he had not resigned would now stand as a full colonel, yet upon application he finds he is excluded from the depreciation of his pay and the bounty of lands; and praying that he may be allowed the same as a lieutenant colonel.

Also, a petition of William Gill; setting forth, that he is nearest of blood to John Brander, a British subject, whose estate has been confiscated; and praying that an act may pass to vest the monies arising from the sale of the said estate in the petitioner.

Also, a petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Councilmen, of the city of Richmond; setting forth, that difficulties and doubts have arisen upon the construction of several laws giving powers to the directors and trustees of the said city, which have been since transferred to the Corporation; and also, of an act, "authorising them to elect two more Aldermen;" and praying that the same may be explained and amended.

Also, a petition of the officers of the third Virginia regiment; setting forth, that two years after the formation of their regiment they were discharged; by which means they are not entitled to the bounty of land allowed other troops in the service of this State; and praying that they may be allowed a proportionable part of the said lands for the time they were in service.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A bill, "concerning Peter Heron, a subject of His Most Christian Majesty;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-day.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

And the question being put, that the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time, It passed in the affirmative.

Ayes 60,

Noes 25.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made by Mr. Mann Page, and seconded by Mr. Nicholas;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, George Nicholas, William Cabell, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Adam Stevens, Moses Hunter, John Breckenridge, Thomas Claiborne, John Cabell, Dickinson Barksdale, John Ward, Joel Watkins, Robert Goode, French Strother, James Pendleton, George Wray, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, William Pickett, David Ross, Charles Mynn Thruston, Timothy Patton, John Page, Thomas Smith, James Mason, James McCraw, Abraham Hite, Garland Anderson, Patrick Henry, John Scasbrook Wells, Josiah Parker, Thomas Coleman, John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, Stephens Thomson Mason, William Anderson, Henry Stokes, Caleb Wallace, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, James Campbell, John Cowper, John Watkins, John Kearnes, Isaac Avery, David Shepherd, William Moore, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, Richard Bibb, John Thorowgood, Alexander Scott Bullitt, James Gordon, John Faundleroy, Abraham Bird, Richard Henry Lee, James Kee, Arthur Campbell and James Montgomery.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, the Honorable John Tyler, Speaker, Samuel Sherwin, Thomas Lumpkin, Archibald Stuart, Carter Henry Harrison, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, Alexander White, Elias Poston, Hugh Innes, William Nelson, jun. Henry Todd, Drury Ragsdale, James Ball, jun. John Bowdoin, John Heath, William Mayo, jun. William Ronald, Arthur Lee, Andrew Moore, Gabriel Jones, Isaac Zane, Mann Page, Thomas Towles and Wilson Miles Cary.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Moore have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Friday next; and Messrs. Edward Carter, and Gilchrist, until Monday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly appointing naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, into one act;" and that Messrs. Henderson, Newton, Mann Page, Ball, Cary, and John Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting the public printers; and for allowing Frederick Warneck a bounty in lands; also, to the bills "to continue and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontier,'" and "to legalize certain proceedings of the county courts of Cumberland and Lunenburg," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Alexandria, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences from the heavy tonnage imposed by the act, "for establishing a permanent revenue upon all small vessels," and the charges at entrance and clearance, though perhaps, they are only from the neighboring States: by which means, the profits of the voyage are swallowed up, before they are permitted to break bulk; and praying that the said law may be amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.'"

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for the relief of sheriffs;" "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to



enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army;" "for granting pardon to John Holland;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands and slaves, descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" and "to indemnify all officers of the army, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

### MONDAY, June 9, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "concerning Peter Heron, a subject of His Most Christian Majesty;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning Peter Heron, a subject of His Most Christian Majesty."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of Albemarle Sound;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they understand the General Assembly are now about to impose a heavy duty on all imported iron and cordage, which will, in their opinion, be very prejudicial to the citizens of this State, as there is not a sufficient quantity of those articles made within the State for its consumption; and praying that the duties to which they are now subject, may not be increased.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to provide funds for the payment of the debt due to the army."

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, Generals Scott, Weedon and Morgan, Col. Heath, Lieutenant Colonels Towles and Clarke, and Capt. Carrington, officers of the Virginia continental line, have attended the present session of Assembly, properly deputed on business of the said line, which has been very expensive to them;

*Resolved*, therefore, That the treasurer be directed to pay such of the said officers who have not received it, the interest of their certificates granted under an act of Assembly, passed the November session, 1781, out of any public money in his hands.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to vest certain lands in the county of Northampton in trustees, for the use of an Academy;" and that Messrs. Avery, Henry, Richard Henry Lee, Joseph Jones and Gabriel Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Thomson Mason reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitions of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Amherst and Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that a ferry may be established from the land of Thomas Waugh, in the county of Amherst over the Fluvanna river, to the land of Nicholas Davies, on the opposite shore, in the county of Bedford; and that an opposite ferry from the land of the said Nicholas Davies, over the Fluvanna, to the land of the said Thomas Waugh on the opposite shore; are reasonable.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for regulating ferries;" that they receive a clause or clauses, agreeable to the said resolution.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;" and that Messrs. Alexander White and Thomson Mason, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. William Cabell presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts, concerning vestries;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Thomas Bowyer, was presented to the House, and read; praying that compensation may be made him for the support of a number of recruits, which he marched to the State of New Jersey in the year 1777, and for which he has received no satisfaction.

Also, a petition of Duncan Rose; setting forth, that in the month of April, 1781, he received of the auditors two warrants for sums of paper money, in part payment of a debt due him from the State in tobacco at the rate of 75L. currency for every hundred weight of tobacco; that owing to the confusion occasioned by the invasions of the enemy,



he never received the said money; and upon application to the auditors since the funding of the paper currency, they have refused to allow him more than the legal depreciation fixed by act of Assembly, by which means he will lose near three fifths of his debt; and praying that the said warrants may be again reduced into tobacco.

Also, a petition of Hannah Crawford; setting forth, that she is widow of the late Colonel William Crawford, deceased, who by entering early in the war into the service of his country as a soldier, and by his constant assiduity and attention therein, was reduced from a state of opulence to want, and was lately killed in an engagement with the Indians, at the head of a party of troops of which he had taken command at the request of General Irwin, leaving his family much distressed; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. John Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jameson:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning Peter Heron, a subject of His Most Christian Majesty," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for granting pardon to John Holland;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. John Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Cowper presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to continue and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

General Lawson presented, according to order, a bill "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stoakes have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday se'nnight.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer do pay the wages of the members attending this present General Assembly, out of the fund heretofore appropriated for the defence of the Bay of Chesapeake, the said fund being no longer necessary for the purpose aforesaid.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions and a resolution to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Banks and James Sullivan, inspectors of tobacco at Hobb's Hole, praying to be reimbursed by the public for certain tobacco which was stolen out of the warehouses at the said inspection, in the years 1780 and 1781, and for which they have actually paid, is reasonable; and that the petitioners ought to be paid by the public for 1,483 pounds of crop tobacco, being the quantity stolen, to be discharged at two pence per pound.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such part of the petition of Thomas Moss, as prays that he may be paid by the public for certain armourer's tools, which were taken from him for public service, ought to be referred to a Court of Claims.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition as prays that an allowance may be made him by the public for repairing sundry public arms, ought to be referred to the auditors of public accounts to adjust and settle.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitions of John Morris and Peter Mason, jun. praying compensation from the public, in consideration of the wounds which they have received whilst soldiers in the service of this State, are reasonable; and that the petitioners ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and allowed half pay for life.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the resolution which directs the auditors to issue military warrants to Dr. William Brown, for the sum of 53*l.* 12*s.* for his services in the continental army in the year 1776; ought to be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

A petition of Jacob Wine, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that whilst a soldier in the first detachment of Virginia troops, he received at different times six wounds, which have disabled him from labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Dobyns; setting forth, that he was drafted from the county of Richmond, under the act of October session, 1780, for recruiting the troops of this State, and was entitled to a certificate for one thousand pounds of crop tobacco, as a bounty; that he soon after applied to the lieutenant-colonel of the county for the said bounty, but did not receive the same, nor has he ever since received any satisfaction for it, and praying a reasonable compensation may be made him.

Also, a petition of Abraham Green, William Ford, John Howson, Edward Booker, and George Booker; setting forth, that in the year 1773, they attended the General Court as venire men, on the trial of Joseph Berry, and have never received any satisfaction for the same, the auditors, upon application, having refused to make them any allowance; and praying to be paid the usual allowance to venire men.

Also, a petition of James Kemp; setting forth, that a certain George Logan was indebted to the petitioner in a considerable sum, and having joined a party of British troops, under the command of Lord Dunmore, his estate has been since confiscated, and the monies arising from the sale thereof paid into the treasury, and praying that the treasurer may be directed to pay him the amount of his debt out of the said monies.

Also, a petition of Lemuel Thorowgood, executor of Hugh Craigdallie, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John Holcombe, praying to be paid for a valuable horse, which was stolen from him whilst he had the command of a regiment of the militia, which were guarding the British troops taken at York, to Winchester.

Also, a petition of Henry Lee, jun. lieutenant-colonel commandant of the partizan legion; setting forth, that on the day of the battle at Guilford courthouse, he purchased of a certain William Warwick, a gelding for the use of the legion, and drew an order on the treasury of this State for the sum of ten thousand pounds, in favor of the said Warwick, which was never paid, and was also refused to be certified by the Court of Claims of the county where he presented the same; and praying that the value of the horse may be paid to the said Warwick.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find that they are truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to continue and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for the relief of certain persons now resident on the western frontier.'"

"An act, to vest the Gun Factory and public lands at Fredericksburg in trustees, for the purposes of an Academy."

"An act, concerning Peter Heron, a subject of His Most Christian Majesty."

"An act, to alter the place of holding courts in the county of Brunswick."

"An act, for farther continuing several acts of Assembly."

"An act, to legalize certain proceedings of the county court of Cumberland, and for other purposes."

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting a supply of provisions for the troops now on guard; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Cabell presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Lynnhaven, in the county of Princess Anne;" which was received, and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of Benjamin Johnson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being a resident in that part of the Commonwealth called West Augusta, which comprehends the counties affected by the dividing line with Pennsylvania, he has seen the inconveniences resulting to the people there, from the want of a Land Office, and of a court, with jurisdiction to try land causes; and praying that such regulations may be adopted by the Legislature as may tend to the relief of the said people.

Also, a petition of Joseph Moore and William Cowan; setting forth, that they are attorneys in fact for Robert Walton, jun. who in the year 1779, imported into this State a number of slaves from the State of Georgia, being at that time ignorant of the act "to prevent the importation of slaves;" that he is desirous of disposing of the said slaves for the discharge of several debts contracted during his stay here; and praying that an act may pass, empowering them to dispose of the said slaves by sale.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers, to penalties or disabilities for non-juring;" "to enable the General Court, to settle and adjust costs;" "to



repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;' "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;' "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands and slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" and "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, June 10, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for the relief of sheriffs," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 77,

Noes 17.

On a motion made by Mr. Thomson Mason, and seconded by Mr. Mann Page;

*Ordered*, That the names of the Ayes and Noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, George Nicholas, William Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Moses Hunter, John Breckenridge, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, John Cabell, Robert Adams, jun. John Ward, William Green Munford, Thomas Collier, Joel Watkins, Robert Goode, James Pendleton, George Wray, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, John Barker, John Powell, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, John Crittenden, Timothy Peyton, John Page, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, James Wall, James Mason, James M'Craw, Isaac Coles, Elias Poston, Abraham Hite, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innes, John Seabrook Wells, Josiah Parker, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Carter Braxton, William Anderson, Edward Ragsdale, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, Francis Worman, James Campbell, Kinchen Godwin, John Cowper, John Bowdoin, John Thornton, John Heath, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, Richard Bibb, Alexander Scott Bullitt, Charles Campbell, Andrew Moore, Gabriel Jones, John Hopkins, Abraham Bird, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter, Gray Judkins, Cole Digges, Richard Henry Lee, James Montgomery and Thomas Newton.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Everard Meade, Adam Stevens, French Strother, Charles Broadwater, William Norvell, Drury Ragsdale, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. John Watkins, Thomas Kemp, Arthur Lee, James Gordon, John Fauntleroy, Mann Page, Thomson Mason, James Kee, and Wilson Miles Cary.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, for the relief of sheriffs."

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for granting pardon to John Holland;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for granting pardon to John Holland."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to continue and amend an act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" was read the second time, and ordered be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the several acts, concerning vestries;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

The House, proceeded to consider the resolution reported from the committee of Privileges and Elections, on the memorial of Gabriel Jones, to them referred, which lay on the table; and the said resolution being again twice read, was amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Gabriel Jones, being a deputy attorney for the Commonwealth for the county of Rockingham, at the time of his election, was eligible as a delegate to represent the said county in this present General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, which the late war has prevented being done according to law;" and that Messrs. Zane, Stephens Thomson Mason, Thruston, Alexander White and Gabriel Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter



reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections, do inquire into the information lodged before the said committee, concerning the ineligibility of Messrs. David Ross and John Powell, delegates returned to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Fluvanna, for non-residence; and of Mr. Isaac Zane, a delegate returned to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Shenandoah, for the same cause.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be empowered to draw on the treasurer for such a sum of money out of the fund appropriated for the eastern defence, as may be necessary for the support of the guards now on duty, until the General Assembly shall make further provision for them.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That General Nelson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of John Vaughan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that after a series of active services in a minute-battalion, in the continental army, and as a volunteer, he was, in October, 1778, appointed a lieutenant in the State garrison regiment, in which he continued until some time in the year 1781, when he was, by an arrangement of the State troops, considered as a supernumerary, contrary to his most earnest wishes, and entitled to half pay only; and praying that the auditors may be directed to settle his accounts for the year 1781, as an officer entitled to full pay; and praying also, that he may be permitted to prove by his own oath, the proper application of a sum of money advanced him for the recruiting service, the vouchers for which have been lost.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof; and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inspect the office of the public printer, and report to the House the present state and progress of the public business under his direction.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Nicholas, General Nelson, Wilson Miles Cary, Alexander White, and Pendleton.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attorneys;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" and "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers to penalties or disabilities for non-juring," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 11, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled an act, 'to continue and amend an act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to continue and amend an act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cowper do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee of officers from the army, who have attended this House, on the business of their memorial, ought to be allowed the sum of three dollars per diem respectively, and the same sum for every day's travelling expenses to and from this place; and that the same be paid by the treasurer out of the fund arising from the recruiting law, deducting the same from the interest due, or to become due, to the said officers upon their military certificates.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for granting pardon to John Holland." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, examined the certificates of election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, compared the same with the form prescribed by law, and had come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the certificates of the election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly for the counties of Albemarle, Amelia, Augusta, Bedford, Berkeley Botetourt, Campbell, Caroline, Charles City, Charlotte, Chesterfield, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fluvanna, Frederick, Gloucester, Goochland, Halifax, Hampshire, Hanover, Henrico, Henry, James City, Isle of Wight, King George, King and Queen, King William, Lancaster, Lincoln, Louisa, Lunenburg, Middlesex, Monongalia, Nansemond, New Kent, Orange, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Prince George, Prince William, Rockbridge, Spottsylvania, Surry, Warwick, Washington, Westmoreland, and of a delegate for the city of Williamsburg and borough of Norfolk, are made in the form prescribed by law.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the certificates of the election of delegates to serve in this present General Assembly for the counties of Amherst, Brunswick, Buckingham, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, Fayette, Greensville, Loudoun, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Norfolk, Northampton, Northumberland, Ohio, Powhatan, Princess Anne, Richmond, Rockingham, Shenandoah, Southampton, Stafford, Sussex and York, are not made in the form prescribed by law.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the said report do lie on the table.

Mr. Newton reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for supplying the troops now on guard with provisions. And then he withdrew.

A remonstrance and memorial of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henrico, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are much alarmed at the prospect of admitting to an equal participation of the rights of citizenship, natives of America who took part with Great Britain in the late contest, and who resided in the British dominions, without giving some assurance of attachment to America; those persons who, in the hour of danger left America, alone to combat British oppression; and those against whom the statute staple of Edward III. is in force; and praying that the return of such persons may be inhibited.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal the act," declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens."

A petition of Thomas Bryan Martin and Gabriel Jones, surviving executors of Lord Fairfax, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they shall be involved in many difficulties, in consequence of a clause of the act of the last session of Assembly "for establishing a revenue," permitting all persons indebted to the said Fairfax's estate, for arrears of quit rents, to retain the same in their hands until the further direction of the Assembly, which will deprive them of the means of discharging his debts, and of paying the annual taxes on his lands, which are very considerable; and praying that that part of the said law may be repealed.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act."

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the proposition of Congress, recommending it to this State to enable Congress to levy within this State duties on certain enumerated articles, and an impost of five per centum ad valorem, on all other goods and merchandizes, is inadmissible.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the said proposition, as recommends the assigning particular branches of the revenue of this State to be collected by Congress, is also inadmissible.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the duties and imposts, as recommended by Congress, ought to be laid until this State's quota of the continental debt shall be paid; and that the monies arising therefrom, ought to be collected by the several Naval officers, and by them paid to the continental receiver in this State.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That in addition to the revenue arising from imposts, the proceeds of the land tax as now charged, be granted to Congress: that is to say, the whole or so much thereof as may be necessary to make up a sum equal to this State's quota shall be paid by the treasurer to the continental receiver; and if any deficiency should arise, the same shall be made good out of the tax arising from slaves.



*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d and 4th resolutions; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Henry, Nicholas Henderson, William Cabell, Richard Henry Lee and William Nelson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer do pay the wages of the members attending this present General Assembly, to wit: a sum not exceeding 1,800*l.* out of the fund heretofore appropriated for the defence of the Bay of Chesapeake, and a sum not exceeding 1,200*l.* out of the fund arising from the recruiting law.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ayes 43,

Noes 40.

On a motion made by Mr. William Cabell, and seconded by Mr. Thurston;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question for agreeing to the said resolution, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Dickinson Barksdale, George Wray, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, James McCraw, Isaac Coles, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innes, John Scasbrook Wells, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. Stephens Thomson Mason, John Carter, Caleb Wallace, William Curtis, Francis Worman, James Campbell, Kinchen Godwin, John Cowper, Isaac Avery, David Shepherd, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, Robert Lawson, Arthur Lee, John Fauntleroy, Andrew Moore, James Kee, Cole Digges, Richard Henry Lee, James Montgomery and Thomas Nelson, jun.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, William Cabell, Everard Meade, John Cunningham, Thomas Lumpkin, Thomas Claiborne, John Cabell, Robert Adams, jun. John Ward, William Green Munford, Thomas Collier, Joel Watkins, French Strother, James Pendleton, David Ross, John Powell, John Page, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, William Norvell, William Nelson, Drury Ragsdale, William Anderson, Edward Ragsdale, John Kearnes, John Bowdoin, John Thornton, John Heath, William Dix, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, Isaac Zane, Abraham Bird, John Taylor of Southampton, Mann Page, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter and Wilson Miles Cary.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Joel Watkins, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, to whom the bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers, to penalties or disabilities for non-juring," was committed, be discharged from further proceeding therein; and,

On a motion made,

*Ordered* That the said bill, be engrossed, and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" "for establishing an infirmary for the receptacle and support of aged and infirm soldiers;" and "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, June 12, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subjects the people called Quakers, to penalties or disabilities for non-juring;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers and Menonists, to penalties or disabilities for non-juring."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That Captain Joseph Se tt, sen. of the Virginia line on continental establishment, who is much distressed in consequence of a wound received in the service of his country, and whose merit richly deserves the regard of this Assembly, be allowed the full pay of a captain during life, to commence the 1st day of January, 1782, and that the auditors be directed to issue their warrants accordingly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for making compensation to John Morris and Peter Mason, for wounds received in the service of their country; for paying Thomas Watkins a sum of money; respecting Thomas Moss; and for allowing a quantity of tobacco to James Sullivan and James Banks, inspectors at Hobbs's Hole. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

Whereas, by a resolution of the last session of Assembly, of the 29th of November 1782, the auditors of public accounts were directed to issue a certificate to John Brown, for one year and three months pay, as a soldier, late in the continental service; and it appears to this House, that the claim upon which the said resolution was founded, is in the name of Jehu Brown, the petition having through mistake, stated the name of John Brown;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said resolution of the 29th of November last, directing the auditors of public accounts to issue their certificate to John Brown, for one year and three months pay, as a soldier late in the continental service, be rescinded; and that the auditors do issue their certificate for the same to Jehu Brown.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

Mr. Avery presented, according to order, a bill, "to vest certain lands in the county of Northampton, in trustees, for the use of an Academy; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee appointed to examine into the state of the office of the public printer, that the committee had, according to order, examined the same, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth :

It appears to your committee, that the Journals of this House are printed up to the third instant; that none of the laws are printed, but that one sheet is now preparing.

They find that the printer has not a sufficient quantity of paper to complete the business, but is in expectation of an adequate supply.

They find that it will be impossible for him to finish the Journals and the Laws by the end of the session; but that the Journals and such of the Laws as the country are more immediately interested in knowing, may be completed by that time.

They find that the printer is under very great difficulties from the want of money.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolutions :

*Resolved*, That such of the Laws only, as the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly may point out, be printed at present, and that the rest be finished as soon as possible, after the rising of the Assembly.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay the printer the sum of two hundred pounds, out of the first monies that shall be in his hands.

And the said resolutions being again read were, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to make sale of all the hemp and transfer tobacco now on hand, and appropriate the money arising from the sale thereof, to the payment of the warrants granted the officers and soldiers for interest on their certificates; and that so much of all hemp and transfer tobacco which may be paid to the treasurer, on or before the tenth day of July, and may be necessary for that purpose, shall also be applied, by him, to the further payment of such warrants.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a letter and sundry papers from the delegates of this State in Congress; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Henry Delony, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being deputy commissioner under the provision law, for the county of Mecklenburg, in the year 1781, his anxiety to forward the operations of the army, induced him to make himself liable for a considerable sum, by promising immediate payment to those whom he employed to transport provisions and other articles to the army; and praying that he may be exonerated from the said debts, and the creditors paid their just demands.

Also, a petition of Samuel Jordan Cabell; praying to be reimbursed by the public, a considerable, though unavoidable expense he was at in procuring horses and forage whilst acting as deputy adjutant-general to the American troops, prisoners at Charlestown, which the auditors have refused to allow in a settlement of his accounts.

Also, a petition of John Campbell; setting forth, that in the years 1777 and 1778, he advanced, by order of the county court of Yohogania, several sums of money for the support of the wives and children of poor soldiers; and as bounty for recruits, which have never been repaid by the public; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Edward Sanford and Thomas Sanford, inspectors of tobacco at Nomony warehouse, in the county of Westmoreland; setting forth, that being ignorant of the law, making particular appropriation of the tax on tobacco, they advanced the sum of one hundred and thirteen pounds seventeen shillings, arising therefrom, for repairs to the said warehouse, agreeable to an order of Westmoreland court, which the auditors have refused to allow in the settlement of their accounts; and praying relief.

Also, a memorial of Sampson Mathews; setting forth, that in consequence of a letter from the Governor, accompanying his address to the people, the memorialist obtained considerable loans of paper money from the people of Augusta to the public, which he entrusted to the care of Mr. Smyth Tandy, to deliver at the treasury in Richmond, who on his way thither lost the sum of 4,376*l.* 13*s.* part thereof; that he has since brought suit against the said Tandy for the recovery thereof, in which he has been non-suited; and praying, that as he remains security for the public to the lenders thereof, he may be relieved from the said loss.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of John Campbell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is an old settler on the waters of Ohio, in that part of this State which by the extension of the boundary line has fallen into Pennsylvania, and proceeded to take up lands under the laws of this State, and do other acts as an officer of the same, which have rendered him very obnoxious to the people of Pennsylvania, insomuch, that he is apprehensive their courts will refuse to confirm his rights and to do him justice; that prosecutions have been commenced in the said courts against every individual drawn into service under the militia laws of this State, and particularly against Lieutenant Colonel Cox, who has already suffered in consequence thereof to the amount of a great part of his estate; and praying the protection of this State, on behalf of himself and the said injured inhabitants.

Also, a memorial of Thomas Collier, John Daniel, and James Boulden; setting forth, that being commissioners of the tax for the county of Charlotte, in the year 1780, they received from the collectors a number of tobacco notes, about the time the warehouses on Appomattox and James rivers were destroyed by the enemy, and not being able to prove that the said notes were received before the tobacco was burnt, the public agent hath refused to give them credit for the same in the settlement of their accounts; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Walter Hopkins, Caleb Herbert, James Herbert, Jonathan Herbert and Michael Payne; setting forth, that they are possessed of a parcel of land, containing twenty-five acres and a quarter, situate in the county of Norfolk, at Ferry Point, between the southern and eastern branches of Elizabeth river, which they have laid off into lots and streets for a town by the name of Washington; and praying that the said town may be established by an act of the General Assembly.

Also, a petition of George Weedon, in behalf of the family of the late General Hugh Mercer; setting forth, that the eldest son of the said General Mercer, a youth of sixteen years of age, is entitled, as heir at law to his father, to the bounty of lands allowed by law to the officers of the continental line, which, from his peculiar situation, being both deaf and dumb, will be of little benefit to him, as he is entirely incapable of undertaking the management of it; and praying, that the said lands may be vested in trustees, for his use.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorials, be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" for further continuing and amending the act, entitled an act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Diuiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops, to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" "for establishing an infirmary for the receptacle and support of aged and wounded soldiers;" "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases;" and, "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydcuy, and affording them public assistance," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



FRIDAY, June 13, 1783.

A bill, "for vesting certain lands in the county of Northampton in trustees, for the use of an Academy;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves, in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Walker Tomlin, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Walker Tomlin, praying that he may be allowed to keep the ferry at New-Castle, from his land in the county of King William to the opposite shore in Hanover county; is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several memorials and petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the memorial of the officers of the Illinois regiment, as prays that the one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land, reserved by the General Assembly for the officers and soldiers of the said regiment, may be laid off on the north west side of the Ohio river, opposite to the town of Louisville, beginning where the Silver Hills bind close to the said river, running thence up the said river as far as the grant will admit, and back for the quantity; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said memorial, as prays that a town may be established on some convenient place within the said grant of land on the said river, and warehouses erected for the reception of tobacco and hemp, ought to be referred to the consideration of a committee of the whole House.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the memorial of the Mayor and Commonalty of the town of Fredericksburg, as prays that the act of Assembly for holding fairs in the said town may be revived, and that the same may be held annually on the first Tuesday in June and October, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said memorial, as prays that the day appointed by law for holding courts of Hustings in the said town, may be altered; and that the said court may be held on the first Monday in every month, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said memorial, as prays that the jurisdiction of the said court may be enlarged, and that they may have cognizance of all matters accruing within the jurisdiction of the said court, not exceeding twenty pounds, or two thousand pounds of crop tobacco, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said memorial, as prays that the militia of the said town may be incorporated under officers resident therein, with power to appoint patrols out of the said militia, and not compelled to attend musters at the courthouse of the said county, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Princess Anne, praying that sixty acres of land at the place called Kemp's Landing, in the said county, may be laid off into lots and streets and established a town, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the vestry of the parish of Elizabeth river, in the county of Norfolk, praying that they may be authorised to raise a sum of money by way of lottery, to enable them to erect their public buildings, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Smith, praying that he may be covered from a suit at law with which he is threatened by a certain John Hague, as security for the payment of twelve months rent of a house in the city of Richmond, which was appropriated to the use of an office for the assistant quarter-master general in this State, in the year 1781, amounting to four thousand five hundred pounds of tobacco, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Thomas Smith ought to receive compensation from the public for the rent of the said house.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of Thomas Hayes, praying that an act may pass for vesting certain slaves and their increase, devised by the will of James Hayes, deceased, to Frankley Houlder, in Martha Hayes, daughter of the said James, and the petitioner her husband, ought to be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Bedford, praying that an act may pass for putting down the mill-dam of Jacobus Earley, across



Goose creek, in the said county, which obstructs the passage of fish, ought to be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, praying that all payments made in paper money for specie debts may be adjusted and settled by the table of depreciation, be rejected.

The first and second resolutions were severally read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th resolutions were severally read a second time, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th and 8th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the ninth and tenth resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined an enrolled bill to them referred, and found it to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the said bill to the Senate, for their inspection.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Towles have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Friday next; and Mr. Ragsdale for the remainder of the session.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to establish certain and adequate funds, for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning vestries;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Arthur Lee reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly, as subject the people called Quakers, and Menonists, to penalties, or disabilities, for non-juring;" also, they have examined another rolled bill, and find it to be truly enrolled, and it is signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bill:

"An act, for granting pardon to John Holland."

*Ordered*, That Gen. Nelson be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution respecting the revival of the laws, which lay on the table; and the same being twice read, was amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the Executive to cause the several acts of the General Assembly, subsequent in date to the revival in the year 1769, and the ordinances of Convention which are now in force, to be collected into one code, with a proper index and marginal notes, to be revised and examined by any two judges of the High Court of Chancery; that copies of this code be printed in sufficient numbers for the use of the two Houses of Assembly, the several Executive Boards, the Superior Courts of Justice, and the County and Corporation Courts; that they be covered with paste-board; and that the Executive be empowered to defray the expense of this collection, and of printing the same, out of any money in the treasury: *Provided*, nevertheless, that the whole expense attending the same, does not exceed the sum of 750*l*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, respecting a quantity of whiskey impressed from Caleb Tate, for the use of the army; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clarke do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are much aggrieved by a late decree of the Court of Appeals, respecting the claims of the grantees of the Ohio and Loyal Companies, inasmuch, as they have heretofore paid all fees, dues, and demands, for their lands to the public, and are now called upon to pay to the said grantees 3*l*. for every hundred acres they hold within the claim of the said companies; and praying to be relieved therefrom.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Moss Armistead, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he advanced a sum of money for the purchase of a supply of provisions for Col. Dabney's legion, at a time when they were in great distress, and when the commissioners were unable to procure the necessary provisions for their support; that he has made several applications to be reimbursed for the same, without effect; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills, "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves, descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" "for establishing an infirmary for the receptable and support of aged and wounded soldiers;" "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases;" and "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, June 14, 1783.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco into one act," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A bill "to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for arrears of pay and depreciation," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday, next.

A bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the information lodged before them, concerning the ineligibility of Messrs. David Ross and John Powell, delegates returned to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Fluvanna, for non-residence, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, in the case of Mr. David Ross, that he removed to the said county some time before the enemy marched up the country, in the year 1781; that he hath considered and called himself of that county since that time; that he keeps a house with domestic servants, furniture, and provisions laid in for his use, in the said county; that he pays his capitation tax, is an acting magistrate in the said county, is enrolled in the militia, and was fined at the last court martial held for the county for not attending two of the petty musters; that for the last twelve months, the public business in which the said Ross was engaged, as well as his private concerns, had made it necessary for him to be in various parts of the State, and more particularly in the city of Richmond; that he had not been in the said county from the first of May, 1782, until the last of March, 1783, yet, that he had been longer there than in the county of Chesterfield, during the said period; but that he had been longer in the city of Richmond, than either place.

And it appears to your committee, in the case of Mr. John Powell, that he was a resident of the said county at the time of his being elected a delegate.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said David Ross and John Powell, were resident in, and capable of being elected delegates for the said county of Fluvanna.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Richard Evers Lee, administrator of Sa-



muel Allyne, deceased, praying that the sum of 299*l.* with interest thereon, may be paid out of the estate of Andrew Sprowle, who was indebted to him to the amount of that sum, and whose estate has been confiscated, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Michael Kinsier, praying compensation from the public in consideration of several wounds which he received whilst a soldier in the service of this State, and which have rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one year's half pay for his present relief, and the further allowance of half pay for life.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of George Watkins, setting forth, that he was pilot to the schooner Jenny, belonging to the commercial department of this State, when captured in the year 1777, and was carried to England, where he remained a close prisoner until the year 1780, for which time he has received no pay, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed 16*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* half-penny, being the sum which appears to be actually due to him prior to his capture; and that the further sum of 43*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* half-penny ought to be allowed the petitioner, as a compensation for his sufferings whilst in captivity.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Le Roy Peachey, setting forth, that in the discharge of his duty as county lieutenant of Richmond, he did, in the year 1779, receive and disburse on public account, considerable sums of paper money; that the auditors have refused to settle his accounts for the same, except by the scale of depreciation, which he conceives would in many instances be unjust, and praying relief; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Peachey, praying that certain sums of paper money which he received from the county lieutenant of Richmond, and another gentleman, to place to the credit of their accounts with the Commonwealth, but which were by accident lodged in the treasury and funded, may be now credited as first intended; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Reynolds, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, for his services as conductor of military stores to a detachment of this State's troops, which were in the year 1780, marched to the Southward, and commanded by Col. Charles Porterfield, deceased, from whom he received his appointment, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to settle the petitioner's accounts for the same, and allow him, from the 25th of April 1780, to the 25th of February 1781, the same pay as is allowed to a conductor of military stores, in the continental army.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such part of the petition of Hannah Crawford, widow of the late Col. William Crawford, deceased, as prays that the auditors may be empowered to settle the accounts of her said deceased husband, and grant certificates for the depreciation and arrearages of his pay; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Alexander Kilpatrick, setting forth, that he was appointed jailer of the county of Augusta in the year 1779, and continued to act until the month of November 1781, during which time, he hath sustained great loss by the insufficiency of the fees to support the prisoners, and praying relief, be rejected;

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Maj. Alexander Stuart, praying that compensation may be made him by the public for two horses and his arms, which he lost, and was plundered of by the enemy, when taken a prisoner at the battle of Guilford courthouse; is reasonable.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The 2d, 3d, 5th, 6th and 7th resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 4th and 8th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to be recommended to the same committee.

The 9th resolution was read a second time and amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2d, 3d, 6th, 7th and 9th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Wilson Miles Cary reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Thomas Gowry Tyler, administrator of his father Henry Tyler, deceased, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Thomas Gowry Tyler, praying that the justices of the county court of Stafford and King George, may be empowered to levy five thousand six hundred and ninety-six pounds of tobacco, which was due to the said Henry Tyler from the said county of Stafford, at the time of his death, for public services as clerk of the said court, which could not be levied before part of the said county of Stafford was added to the county of King George; is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henry Towles, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next.

Mr. Wilson Miles Cary reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Gill, praying that an act may pass to vest the money arising from the sale of the estate of his uncle John Brander, deceased, which was sold under the act, "concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects," and also, the estate of the said John Brauder, remaining unsold, in the petitioner; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Henry, praying that the said county may be divided, by a line to be run from the head of Shooting creek to the west end of Turkey Cock mountain; thence along the top of the mountain to intersect the dividing line between Pittsylvania and Henry counties; thence along that line to the mouth of Black-water river; and that that part of the county of Bedford, lying on the south side of Staunton river, may be added to the county lying on the north side of the said dividing line; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Henry, in opposition thereto; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Bedford, residing on the south side of Staunton river, praying that the said county may be divided into two distinct counties, by running a line from the mouth of Black-water up the meanders of Staunton river to the great mountains; thence along the same, passing the head of Black-water, to the head of Shooting creek; thence a straight line to the west end of Turkey Cock mountain; thence along the same to intersect the dividing line between the counties of Pittsylvania and Henry; thence along that line to the mouth of Black-water river; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

*MR. SPEAKER,*—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;'" also, to the resolution for paying the officers of the army attending the Assembly on the business of their memorial; with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Wilson Miles Cary reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers freeholders and inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, praying that an act may pass, authorising the trustees of the said town to assess the freeholders and inhabitants, not exceeding three shillings for every tithable, and in proportion for real property, to be laid out in public improvements, and to regulate the markets and remove nuisances; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of John Vaughan, as prays that he may be allowed to settle his recruiting account upon oath, his vouchers being destroyed by the enemy; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the petition of the said John Vaughan, as prays that the auditors of public accounts may be directed to settle with him as an officer in full pay, for the year 1781; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Augusta and Rockbridge, praying that the proprietors of the lands called and known by the name of Beverley's and Burden's tracts, may be compelled to pay the arrearages of taxes on the said lands, and the taxes to accrue thereon, or that the lands may revert to the public, and be entered for and taken up as other waste lands; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Wilson Miles Cary do carry the second resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the third reading of the engrossed bill "to vest certain lands in the county of Northampton in trustees, for the use of an Academy;" be postponed until the third Monday after the meeting of the next session of Assembly.

Mr. Wilson Miles Cary reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Richard Kidder Meade, who served as captain of a company from September 1775, to the Spring 1777, and acted as aid-de-camp to his excellency the commander in chief, with the rank of lieutenant colonel, from the Spring 1777, to the 19th of October 1780; and praying to be put on the same footing with other lieutenant colonels of this State; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James McClurg, who acted as physician to the troops and director of the hospitals of this State, for the term of three years, and praying to be allowed a bounty of lands; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wilson Miles Cary do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the several acts, concerning vestries;" "to enable the General Court, to settle and adjust costs;" "to repeal the act to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" "to repeal the act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attorneys;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;" "for establishing an infirmary for the receptacle and support of aged and wounded soldiers;" "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates, in certain cases;" and, "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

### MONDAY, June 16, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves in tail, to hold the same in fee simple," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves in tail, to hold the same in fee simple."

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the information lodged before them concerning the ineligibility of Mr. John Powell, a delegate returned to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Fluvanna, for non-residence, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said John Powell was a resident of the said county at the time of his being elected a delegate.

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said John Powell was resident in, and capable of being elected a delegate for the said county of Fluvanna.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions and a resolution to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Daniel Jones, praying that compensation may be made him for a mill and granary, which were taken from him in the year 1781, for the purpose of manufacturing and storing of flour for public service, and whilst in that service were destroyed by the enemy; be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Henry Delony, setting forth, that in the active campaign of 1781, he accepted an appointment under John Brown, late commissary-general of provisions, as his deputy in the county of Mecklenburg; that, in consequence of assurances from the said John Brown, that regular remittances of money should be made him, he has made himself liable for the payment of 604*l.* 12*s.* 1-2*d.* to several persons engaged in collecting and driving beeves and wagoning flour and other articles to the army, which still remains to be paid; and praying that provision may be made by the public for the payment of the same, is reasonable; and that the accounts of the several persons employed by the petitioner in the above business, ought to be inspected, and allowed by the court of Claims in the county where the said services were performed, and transmitted to the auditors, for certificates to issue thereupon.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitions of Jacob Wine and Andrew Green, praying relief from the public in consideration of several wounds, which they have received whilst soldiers in the service of this State, and which have rendered them unable to procure a livelihood by labor, are reasonable; and that the petitioners ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and allowed half-pay for life.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Samuel Jordan Cabell, praying to be reimbursed by the public the expense which he incurred in furnishing forage for the horses which he was obliged to keep whilst acting as deputy adjutant-general to the American troops, prisoners at Charlestown, and which the auditors have refused to allow, is reasonable; and that the petitioner, in the settlement of his accounts with the auditors, ought to be allowed forage for the same number of horses as are allowed to a continental officer of like rank, during



the time that he acted in his said appointment as deputy adjutant-general; and that the same be charged to the continent in account with the Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Dobyns, setting forth, that under the act of October session 1780, "for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army," he was draughted from the county of Richmond, and was by the said act entitled to a certificate for one thousand pounds of crop tobacco as a bounty, which he has never received, and praying a reasonable compensation may be made him for the same, is reasonable; and that the treasurer ought to grant to the petitioner a certificate for one thousand pounds of tobacco.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Holcombe, praying to be paid by the public for a valuable horse which was stolen from him at Williamsburg, whilst he had the command of a regiment of militia, which were appointed to guard the British troops taken at York, to Winchester; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such part of the petition of John Campbell, as prays that he may be re-imburshed by the public, the value of 640*l.* paper money, which he advanced by order of the county court of Yohogania, in the years 1777 and 1778, for the support of the wives and children of poor soldiers of the said county, and which has never been repaid him, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to settle the same agreeable to the scale of depreciation, as fixed in the month of January 1778; and grant him a warrant accordingly, with an interest of six per centum per annum thereon, until paid.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that he also may be re-imburshed the value of 285 paper dollars, which he advanced at different times as bounty to certain recruits raised in the said county of Yohogania, and which has never been repaid him, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to settle the same agreeable to the scale of depreciation, and allow an interest of six per centum per annum thereon, until paid.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That Captain Joseph Scott, sen. an officer of the Virginia line on continental establishment, who has been disabled and wounded in the service of his country; ought to be allowed half pay for life, to commence from the first day of January 1782.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 4th resolution was read a second time, and amended; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 5th resolution, was read a second time, and amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2d, 3d, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Simon Nathan, praying to be heard upon the subject matter of his claim, by counsel, at the bar of the House; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the information lodged before them concerning the ineligibility of Mr. Issac Zane, a delegate returned to serve in this present General Assembly for the county of Shenandoah, for non-residence, and had come to the following resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the election of the said Issac Zane was legal.

A petition of William Mountjoy, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1776, he was appointed a lieutenant in the third Virginia regiment, which he soon after gave up for the quartermaster's post in the same regiment, and served in that capacity until the year 1779; that he finds he is not entitled to the bounty of lands, though he was upwards of three years in service; and praying such a proportion of lands as may be thought equitable.

Also, a petition of Joseph Hay; setting forth, that he has served near six years in the capacity of a surgeon's mate to the troops, and apothecary to the hospitals of this State; and finds, that notwithstanding they were promised all the advantages allowed regimental surgeons and apothecaries of the continental hospital, that he is not by law allowed the bounty of lands; and praying to be put upon the same footing with regimental surgeons in that respect.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" also, to the resolutions for collecting the ordinances and laws now in force, since the revival in 1769, into one code; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of William Reynolds; allowing John Vaughan to settle an account of recruiting money received by him, on oath; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of William Crawford, deceased; for putting Richard Kidder Meade on the footing with lieutenant colonels, with respect to his pay; and for allowing James McClurg a bounty in lands. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for the relief of sheriffs;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.



*Ordered*, That Mr. James Gordon, jun. and Mr. Abraham Hite, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;'" and the same being read, were amended, and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates, in certain cases;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. John Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable the trustees of the town of York, to level the works around the said town, at public expense;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

And then the question being put, that the said bill be engrossed and read the third time,  
It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee of officers from the State line, who have attended the General Assembly, on the business of their memorial, ought to be allowed the sum of three dollars per day respectively, and the same sum for every day's travelling expenses to and from this place; and that the same be paid by the treasurer, out of the fund arising from the recruiting law, deducting the same from the interest due, or to become due, to the said officers upon their military certificates.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That no petition or memorial of a private nature, be received after Wednesday next, during the present session of Assembly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that leave be given to bring in a bill "for paying the wages of the members of the present General Assembly, out of the funds arising from the recruiting law, and for the eastern defence;"

It was resolved in the affirmative,

Ayes 48,

Noes 26.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Arthur Lee and Richard Henry Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made by Mr. Nicholas, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Smith;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Robert Gilchrist, William Green Munford, William Watkins, George Wray, George Booker, Spencer Roane, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, Alexander White, John Page, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, Isaac Coles, Elias Poston, Hugh Innes, Thomas Coleman, John Pollard, James Ball, John Carter, Thomas Johnson, Caleb Wallace, Thomas Pettus, Maurice Smith, William Curtis, Francis Worman, James Campbell, Isaac Avery, David Shepherd, William Moore, John Scott, Robert Lawson, Edmund Ruffin, Arthur Lee, John Fauntleroy, Charles Campbell, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, Abraham Bird, James Kee, Gray Judkins, Sterling Harwell, Wilson Miles Cary, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell and James Montgomery.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, William Cabell, Everard Meade, Robert Clarke, Thomas Claiborne, James Pendleton, John Barker, John Powell, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, William Norvell, William Nelson, jun. Carter Braxton, William Anderson, Edward Ragsdale, John Kearnes, John Bowdoin, John Thornton, John Heath, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, Thomas Kemp, John Taylor of Southampton, Richard Cocke, and Thomas Nelson.

The House proceeded to consider the report of the committee appointed to examine into the state of the printing office, which lay on the table, and the same being read, was amended and agreed to, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the Journals of this House are printed up to the third instant ; that none of the laws are printed ; but that one sheet is now preparing.

That the printer has not a sufficient quantity of paper to complete the business ; but is in expectation of an adequate supply.

That it will be impossible for him to finish the Journals and the Laws by the end of the session ; but that the Journals and such of the Laws as the country are more immediately interested in knowing, may be completed by that time.

That the printer is under very great difficulties from the want of money.

*Resolved*, That such of the laws only as the Speakers of the two Houses of Assembly may point out, be printed at present ; and that the rest be finished as soon as possible, after the rising of the Assembly.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay the printer the sum of two hundred pounds, out of the money arising from the fund appropriated to the eastern defence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding upon the petition of Simon Nathan, and the several papers relating to his claim ; and that the same be referred to a select committee, to consist of seven members.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Nicholas, William Cabell, Braxton, John Page, General Nelson, Thruston, and Stephens Thomson Mason, be of the said committee.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act ;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The order of the day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "for establishing an infirmary for the receptacle and support of aged and wounded soldiers."

*Resolved*, That this House will, upon the second Monday in October next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding upon the letter of Col. George Matthews, to them referred, and that the same be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A petition of John Jouett, was presented to the House, and read ; setting forth, that his houses in the town of Charlottesville, received considerable damages from Col. Arman's corps, who were posted there a considerable time ; and praying compensation may be made him for the same, or other relief granted him.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances ; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Lieutenant Colon l William Darke, was presented to the House, and read ; setting forth, that he was one of the prisoners on Long Island to whom the General Assembly directed a quantity of tobacco to be sent for their support, but the quantity not being sufficient, and he not being in immediate want, gave way to those whose distresses required an immediate supply ; that he has since received an order on the treasurer for it, which has been protested ; and praying that the same may be taken in payment of his taxes.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims ; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth ; also, on the bills, "to amend the several acts, concerning vestries ;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State ;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens ;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes ;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States ;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies ;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves, descended from, or given by, their common ancestors ;" "to indemnify all officers of the army of the United States and others, for acts necessarily done, in execution of military orders ;" and "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance," being read ;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, June 17, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass ; and that the title be, an act "to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, an act "to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs."

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Francis Conan, a native and subject of France, and an inhabitant of Louisiana, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that actuated with the strongest desire of serving the State, he, some time in the years 1778 and 1779, attended the troops under the command of general Clarke, as a physician and surgeon; and furnished a considerable supply of medicines, for which his accounts have been regularly stated and presented for payment at different periods, but have not yet been paid, except one thousand dollars, which were voted him by the General Assembly in 1781 for his immediate support; and praying that after his accounts have been inspected by a surgeon, such a part of the principal may be advanced him in hand, as may be thought necessary for his present relief, and the balance secured to him at a future day.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee to whom the claim of Simon Nathan, was referred; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Cary presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cary presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "authorising a lottery for the benefit of the parish of Elizabeth river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cary presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a new ferry;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cary presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cary presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "directing the money arising from the sales of the estate of John Brander, deceased, to be paid to William Gill;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cary presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "giving certain powers to the trustees of the town of Portsmouth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the relief of debtors;" and that Messrs. Thomson Mason, Avery and Prentiss, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Arthur Lee presented, according to order, a bill "for the payment of wages to the members of the present General Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, according to order, a bill "for the relief of debtors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomson Mason presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for reforming county courts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of George Kistle, was presented to the House, and read; praying that an act may pass for establishing a town on the land of the said Kistle, in the county of Rockingham.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the said petition be postponed until the next session of Assembly.

A petition of Doctor Robert Nicolson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the invasion of this State in the year 1781, he was called upon to render services in the militia as a physician, and from the exhausted state of the public medicines, was induced to supply considerable proportions of his private stock, for which, as well as for his services, he has not received any compensation; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Moss; setting forth, that in the year 1779, he was appointed agent clothier to the Virginia line, by the Executive, with the rations and forage of a major in addition to his salary, his accounts for which he finds difficulty in procuring a settlement of; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Herbert; setting forth, that a negro slave belonging to the petitioner was condemned for felony, executed and valued by the county court of Norfolk; and praying to be paid the said valuation.

Also, a petition of Sarah Sanford, administratrix of James Wilson, deceased, in behalf of her testator; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Thaddy Kelly; setting forth, that in the time of Lord Cornwallis's invasion, he was entrusted by the Honorable Major General Marquis de la Fayette with sundry confidential and important embassies; in the execution of which he was constrained to expend his own money, for which and his services, he has never been compensated; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs'" and that Messrs. White, Roane and Isaac Coles, do prepare and bring in the same.



A memorial of Callohill Minnis, and Mary his wife, executrix, and of Robert Brooke and Thomas Butler, executors of William Aylett, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the said William Aylett was, in his life-time, a purchasing commissary general for the United States, in this State; and to promote the public service, was in many instances induced to engage his private credit upon contracts made for the public; that not having been enabled in his life-time, to discharge the said contracts by the public, his creditors for the same have commenced suits, and threaten his estate and family with ruin, unless relieved by the public; and praying that the measures recommended by Congress, for the security of their officers so circumstanced, may be adopted by the legislature.

Also, a petition of Thomas Dedman and George Nuttall, inspectors of tobacco at Deacon's Neck, in the county of Gloucester; setting forth, that the warehouses at the said inspection have been broke open, without the default of the petitioners, and certain tobacco stolen thereout; and praying that they may be re-imbursed by the public the amount of the said loss.

Also, a petition of John Watts, and Nathaniel Marks, inspectors of tobacco at Boyd's warehouses, in the town of Blandford, and county of Prince George; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they will be greatly aggrieved by an order of the court of the said county for building a new court-house and prison in the borough of Norfolk, as well by the inconvenient situation as from the additional expense of the same, when added to their other public burthens; and praying that an act may pass to remove the place of holding courts in the said county, to the town of Portsmouth, or to Ferry Point, where necessary vacant houses may be had without expense.

Also, a petition of sundry other freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereto.

Also, a petition of George Draper, late physician and surgeon in the army of the United States; setting forth, that he is a citizen of this State, has served upwards of three years in the character of physician and surgeon in the army, and finds no provision made to allow him the depreciation of his pay, or the usual bounty of lands granted in similar cases; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial and petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the delegates representing this State in Congress, to make application to Congress to obtain an order on the continental treasurer in this State, for a sum of money, not exceeding seven hundred and fifty pounds, for the purposes of levying the fortifications erected by the troops of his Most Christian Majesty at York town, in the county of York, and at Gloucester town, in the county of Gloucester, within this Commonwealth.

And the said resolution being again twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That General Nelson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for re-forming county courts," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for establishing certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. John Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and had made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The order of the day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to indemnify all officers of the armies of the United States, and others, for acts necessarily done in execution of military orders;"

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the second Monday in September next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the several acts, concerning vestries;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to repeal the act, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" and "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, June 18, 1783.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions instructing the delegates in Congress to request a sum of money for the purpose of levelling the works at York and Gloucester towns; and for allowing a sum of money to George Watkins. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill “to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State’s quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

Ordered, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate for their examination.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves in tail, to hold the same in fee simple;’” also, they have agreed to the amendments proposed by this House to the amendments of the Senate to the bills “for the relief of sheriffs;” and “to amend the act, ‘for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;’” and also, they do recede from some, and insist upon other of their amendments, disagreed to by this House, to the bill “to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act.” And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments insisted on by the Senate, to the bill “to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;” and the same being read,

Resolved, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments.

Ordered, That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, “for the payment of wages to the members of the present General Assembly;” was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, “for establishing a new ferry;” was read the second time.

On a motion made,

Ordered, That the committee for Courts of Justice, who were appointed to prepare and bring in a bill “for regulating ferries,” do receive a clause or clauses, for establishing a ferry, agreeable to the said bill.

A bill, “giving certain powers to the trustees of the town of Portsmouth;” was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, “for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, “concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, “directing the money arising from the sales of the estate of John Brander, deceased, to be paid to William Gill;” was read the second time; and the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

Resolved, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, “authorising a lottery for the benefit of the parish of Elizabeth river;” was read the second time; and the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

Resolved, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, “for the relief of debtors;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs;” and, “to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates, in certain cases.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it is represented to the General Assembly, that the auditors of public accounts do not conceive themselves authorised by law to liquidate and adjust accounts of officers and soldiers, previous to January 1777, whereby much inconvenience has arisen to officers and soldiers, whose claims are thus circumstanced:

Resolved, therefore, That the auditors of public accounts be requested to liquidate, adjust and settle all accounts of officers and soldiers previous to the said period of the 1st of January 1777, as to them may seem just and equitable.

And the said resolution being twice read, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for paying the expenses of the officers of the State line, attending the Assembly on the business of their memorial; respecting Thomas Smith; Alexander Stuart; and



Thomas Dobyns; for allowing Captain Joseph Scott, sen. full pay during life, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and respecting the public printer, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution, for allowing Captain Joseph Scott, sen. full pay during life; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Rutherford:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting John Campbell, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the commissioners appointed to settle and adjust the accounts of claimants on the western waters; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Zane presented, according to order, a bill "authorising the justices of the county of Monongalia to appoint a place for holding courts for the said county, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of George Rogers Clarke and John Crittenden, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they furnished supplies of provision for western service at their own private expense, for which they have never been reimbursed; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Samuel Taylor; setting forth, that on the retreat of Baron Steuben, from the Point of Fork, he incurred considerable expense in nursing and taking care of sick soldiers, left at his house; and praying to be reimbursed for the same.

Also, a petition of John Smith; setting forth, that he has a just claim against the estate of Joshua Smith, who adhered to the enemy, and whose estate, in the county of Norfolk, has been escheated to the Commonwealth; and praying to be paid the same out of the sales of the said Joshua Smith's estate.

Also, a petition of Abner Tertine; to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Thomas Bentley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was an inhabitant of Kaskaskias, and by early endeavors to support the American cause, sustained great injury in his property and personal liberty from the British; that he is now greatly indebted for contracts actually made for the good of the service; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Philip Legrass, Francis Bossoron, Godfrey Linetot, and Corbonneau; setting forth, that they have made considerable advances for western service, and incurred great expense in attending the commissioners for settling the same; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee to whom was referred the claim of Simon Nathan; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, be discharged from further proceeding on the Governor's letter and its enclosures, respecting the claim of Thomas Bentley, to them referred; and that the said letter and enclosures be referred to the committee to whom was referred the claim of Simon Nathan.

A petition of John Sutton, jun. was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he served upwards of three years as pay master to the first Virginia regiment, and finds himself excluded from the bounty of lands; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Matthew Pope; setting forth, that he has served upwards of three years as a surgeon and physician in the staff department, and finds himself excluded from the bounty of lands; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Francis Taylor; setting forth, that he has served as an officer belonging to the quota of this State in the continental line, upwards of five years, and finds himself excluded from the bounty of lands; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Waller; setting forth, that he was appointed by the High Court of Chancery, receiver of monies due to the estate of a certain Mr. Knox, to satisfy a decree of the said Court, and by a mistake in paying it into the treasury, received a wrong receipt for the same; and praying that the treasurer may be authorised to take in the said receipt, and grant him a true one in lieu thereof.

Also, a petition of George Sturdivant, guardian of James Sturdivant, an orphan; setting forth, that a negro slave, belonging to the said James, was taken by the enemy while in public service; and praying to be paid the value of the said slave.

Also, a petition of William Buckner; setting forth, that he was collector of the levies in the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange, agreeable to an act passed in the year 1775, and from a defect in the law, finds great difficulty in collecting a deficiency of the levies yet due, and for which a judgment has been rendered against him as collector; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Buckingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they are much aggrieved by the conduct of Mr. Charles Patteson, high sheriff of the said county, respecting the collection of taxes for the year 1780; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Green Munford, executor of Nathaniel Maynard and William Edloe, deceased; Forneau Southall, executor of George Minge, deceased; William Barrett, administrator of Sarah McCain, deceased;



James Wall and James Mason, executors of James Wall, deceased; James Binford, and others; setting forth, that they have claims against the estate of William Kennon, deceased, whose lands were sold by virtue of an act of the last session of Assembly, and the monies arising therefrom vested in trustees for the use of his children; and praying that their claims may be satisfied out of the monies arising from the said sales.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Whiting, executrix of Peter Beverley Whiting, deceased; setting forth, that it would be greatly beneficial to the estate of the said Whiting, to sell part of his lands in the county of Prince William for the payment of his debts; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Webb, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that while he was a clothier to the navy, he made contracts upon the faith of his private credit to serve the public, and is now threatened with suits at law for the same; and praying relief.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fluvanna, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the war being now terminated, they conceive it no longer necessary to continue the expense of county adjutants to the militia; and praying that they may be discontinued.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to amend the militia law; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition and remonstrance of sundry freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are informed application has been, or will be made, to the legislature to confirm payments made by British debtors into the public treasury, agreeable to a former law, not at the real, but nominal value; to exonerate them from their creditors; to burthen the public with the difference; and to levy it by taxes upon the people: all which they conceive to be unjust, iniquitous, and oppressive; and praying that such payments may be reduced by the scale of depreciation, and repaid with interest to the several individuals who paid in the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from Peter de la Croix, a subject of France, with sundry enclosures respecting a controversy between himself and the justices of the county court of Accomac; which were read, and ordered to be referred to Messrs. General Nelson, Zane, Thruston, Strother, Alexander White and Joseph Jones.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "directing the enlistment of guards for the public prison and stores;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolutions respecting the public printer; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Norvell be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

A bill, "authorising the justices of the county of Monongalia to appoint a place for holding courts for the said county, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State's quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "directing the enlistments of guards for the public prison and stores;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Ronald, Richard Henry Lee, Joseph Jones, Harvey, Carter Henry Harrison, and Gabriel Jones.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fairfax was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are informed petitions will be offered to this Assembly to repeal the act, "to prevent extensive credits," which they are of opinion was founded in good policy, and productive of the happiest effects to the community; and praying that the said act may not be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of Frederick Harwell was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a claim of the petitioner's, presented to a former Assembly, for a wagon and two horses, impressed into the public service and taken by the enemy, was upon a mistaken representation thereof, rejected; and praying relief.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fayette, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from their exposed situation and the depredations of the enemy, they are unable to pay their public taxes; and praying to be exonerated therefrom for two years.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are much oppressed to pay their taxes, and conceive it would be a great relief to the people to put all certificates of public debt upon the same footing with civil list warrants; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Sussex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that sundry bridges in the said county which were destroyed by order of the Marquis Fayette, to impede the advance of Lord Cornwallis's army, may be rebuilt at public expense.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the several acts, 'concerning vestries;" "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State;" "to repeal the act 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" "to amend the act, 'for regulating the practice of Attorneys;" "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;" and "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, June 19, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for the payment of wages to the members of the present General Assembly;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of ryder, "for paying the sum of 10s. per day, each, to the officers attending the present General Assembly;" and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by House, to be added to the said bill by way of ryder.

And then the main question being put, that the said bill, with the ryder, do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative,

Ayes 63,

Noes 37.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, for the payment of wages to the members of the present General Assembly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Nicholas, and seconded by Mr. Henderson;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes, on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of the members who voted in the affirmative are, John Cunningham, Adam Stephen, Dickinson Barksdale, Robert Adams, jun. Robert Gilchrist, William Green Munford, Robert Goode, George Carrington, William Watkins, George Wray, George Booker, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, John Barker, William Pickett, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thurston, John Page, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, James McCraw, Isaac Coles, Elias Poston, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Carter Braxton, James Ball, jun. John Carter, Thomas Johnson, jun. Caleb Wallace, Maurice Smith, William Curtis, Francis Worman, James Campbell, Kinchen Godwin, Wills Cowper, Isaac Avery, David Shepherd, William Moore, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, Edmund Ruffin, John Thorowgood, Arthur Lee, John Fauntleroy, Charles Campbell, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, James Kee, Gray Judkins, Sterling Harwell, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell, James Montgomery and Thomas Nelson, jun.

The names of the members who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, William Cabell,



Samuel Sherwin, Everard Meade, Zachariah Johnston, Thomas Lumpkin, Andrew Meade, Thomas Claiborne, French Strother, James Pendleton, John Banister, David Ross, Timothy Peyton, Thomas Mann Randolph, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, William Anderson, Thomas Pettus, Samuel Goode, John Kearnes, John Bowdoin, John Heath, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Kemp, Alexander Scott Bullitt, Abraham Bird, John Rogers, John Taylor of Southampton, Charles Carter, Richard Cocke, Wilson Miles Cary, Joseph Prentiss and Henry Tazewell.

An engrossed bill, "giving certain powers to the trustees of the town of Portsmouth;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, giving certain powers to the trustees of the town of Portsmouth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Kearnes do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "authorising the justices of the county of Monongalia, to appoint a place for holding courts in the said county, and for other purposes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, authorising the justices of the county of Monongalia, to appoint a place for holding courts in the said county, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Isaac Zane do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend the act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions and a resolution to them referred, and had come to the following resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Rose and John Furbush Turner, praying that a reasonable compensation may be made them by the public, for a small schooner, which was impressed from them in the month of January 1777, for the purpose of transporting part of the 9th Virginia regiment from the county of Accomac to the Head of Elk, and on her return was captured by the enemy; and also, a further compensation for the time that she was in public service, previous to her capture, for which the auditors have refused to make any allowance, is reasonable; and that the petitioner's said claim ought to be referred to the court of Claims in the said county of Accomac, to be inspected by them, and if allowed, to be transmitted to the auditors of public accounts, for certificates to issue thereupon.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Groom, praying relief from the public, in consideration of the loss of his right leg, whilst on duty as a militia man from the county of Orange at the siege of York, in the year 1781, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and allowed half pay for life.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Moses Armistead, praying to be paid the sum of 30*l.* 22*s.* 9*d.* being the balance of his account against the public, for sundry provisions by him furnished to Col. Dabney's legion, whilst stationed at Hampton, in the year 1782, and which were furnished at a time when the said troops were in the greatest want of them, by reason of there being no commissary at that time in Hampton, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the said sum of 30*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* for which the auditors shall issue their warrant on the military fund, and charge the same to Mr. John Robertson, late commissary of this State.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the resolution of the last session of Assembly, which directed the auditors of public accounts, to issue their certificates to John Brown, for one year and three months pay, as a soldier late in the continental service, ought to be rescinded; and that the auditors ought to issue their certificate for the same to Jehu Brown, late a soldier in the said service.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 2d and 4th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution being read a second time, was amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for granting relief to Michael Kinsier, a wounded soldier. And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Cabell presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" and the same was received and read the first time.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time on the 2d Monday in October next,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Wilson Miles Cary reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions



thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of Thomas Collier, John Daniel, and James Boulden, be deferred to the next session of Assembly; and that in the meantime, no prosecution ought to be had against them or the receivers, for a supposed delinquency as commissioners of the two per cent. tax.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of the executors of Col. William Aylett, deceased, late deputy commissary general of purchases, praying that an act may pass, for staying all suits brought against them for contracts made by their testator, as a public officer, and to prevent future suits being brought on the same account; be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the honorable James Monroe; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said James Monroe, ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a major in the continental army.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said James Monroe, ought to be allowed depreciation on his pay.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Anthony Tucker Dixon, who acted as an apothecary to the continental hospital, and surgeon to Col. Porterfield's regiment, praying that he may be allowed the same portion of land, and the same advantages of depreciation, which regimental surgeons are by law entitled to; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of George Draper, late physician and surgeon in the army of the United States, praying that the account of his pay and depreciation may be settled in the same manner, and upon the like proof, as is prescribed in the case of officers and soldiers; and that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to the surgeons of the Virginia line in continental pay; is reasonable.

The 1st and 2d resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for making certain allowances to Richard Clough Anderson, Jacob Wine and Andrew Green. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Wallace presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act to vest certain escheated lands in Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded, according to the order of the day, to consider the amendments agreed to by the committee of the whole House on Tuesday last, to the bill "to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers, for their arrears of pay and depreciation;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill "to amend the act to vest certain escheated lands in Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Wallace, Avery, Gabriel Jones, Alexander White, Thruston and Tazewell.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee to whom the bill "directing the enlistment of guards for the public prison and stores," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered,* That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Everard Meade have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Saturday se'night.

A bill "to amend an act to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act for appropriating the public revenue;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Braxton, Mann Page, White, Avery and Henderson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That the letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the commissioners appointed to settle the western accounts, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee to whom the claim of Simon Nathan was referred.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the delegates of this State in Congress; and one other from Robert Morris, Esq. financier general; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That a committee be appointed to examine into the progress made by the Solicitor General, in stating and settling the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henderson, Nicholas, William Cabell, Carrington, Strother, Zane, Braxton, Ronald and White.

The order of the day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to make the half-blood inheritable to lands or slaves descended from, or given by, their common ancestors;"

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the third Monday in October next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the several acts concerning vestries;" "to repeal the act declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens;" and "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of United States," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Saturday next.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act for regulating the practice of Attornies," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Tuesday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for further continuing and amending the act for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land-Office, and for other purposes;" and "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Wednesday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for re-forming county courts;" "for the relief of debtors;" "to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State's quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;" and "to repeal the act, 'to prohibit intercourse with, and admission of, British subjects into this State,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, June 20, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs,'" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of a ryder, "to authorise the further continuance of sheriffs in office, in certain cases."

And the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House to be added to the said bill by way of ryder.

*Resolved*, That the bill, with the ryder, do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend an act, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the enlistment of guards for the public prison and stores;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act directing the enlistment of guards for the public prison and stores."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Fauntleroy and Cary have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Cabell reported, from the committee to whom the Governor's letter and enclosures respecting the commissioners for settling and liquidating claims in the western country were referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer ought to be directed to advance to each of the said commissioners, the sum of 100*l*. and to the clerk who attended them, the sum of 60*l*. out of the fund raised by the act, "for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army."

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors ought to be directed to issue warrants to the said commissioners and clerk, for the balance of the sums allowed them by the executive; and that the said warrants ought to be received in payment of taxes, in the same manner as civil list warrants.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Cabell do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it be a standing order of the House, that no memorial or petition be received, praying for the division of any county or parish, changing the place of holding any court or other local matter, unless the purport

of such petition or memorial, shall have been fixed at the door of the courthouse, or other house of holding courts of the county where such alteration is proposed, at two different courts, and shall have remained there one day during the sitting of each court one month at least previous to offering the same; and that no petition or memorial be received, or bill brought in for establishing or discontinuing ferries, or other matters affecting private right or property; unless, the party or parties interested, shall have had one month's notice thereof, if known to the petitioners; and if not known, the purport of such memorial, petition or bill, shall be set up at the courthouse, or other place of holding courts, in the manner before directed, and also three times inserted in the Virginia Gazette, one month before offering or moving for the same.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House as a standing order of the House.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution respecting John Campbell; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State's quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "authorising the justices of the county of Monongalia, to appoint a place for holding courts for the said county, and for other purposes;" also, they do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House to the resolutions respecting John Campbell. And then he withdrew.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "for the relief of debtors," being read;

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the same be put off until the third Monday in October next, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 66,

Noes 23.

On a motion made by Mr. Thomson Mason, and seconded by Mr. Mayo;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, George Nicholas, Samuel Sherwin, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Andrew Meade, Robert Gilchrist, Thomas Collier, George Carrington, James Pendleton, John Banister, William Watkins, George Wray, George Booker, John Edmondson, Charles Broadwater, John Barker, David Ross, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, James McCraw, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, John Seasbrook Wells, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. John Carter, William Anderson, Henry Stokes, Edward Ragsdale, Thomas Pettus, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, Francis Worman, Kinchen Godwin, Wills Cowper, John Kearnes, Isaac Avery, John Heath, William Moore, Benjamin Lankford, John Thorowgood, Thomas Kemp, Arthur Lee, Alexander Scott Bullitt, John Fauntleroy, Isaac Zane, Abraham Bird, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter, James Kee, Richard Cocke, Gray Judkins, Wilson Miles Cary, Richard Henry Lee, Arthur Campbell, James Montgomery, Joseph Prentis, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Newton.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Edward Carter, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, Hickinson Barksdale, William Green Munford, French Strother, Spencer Roane, Alexander Henderson, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, William Nelson, jun. Carter Braxton, Thomas Johnson, jun. Maurice Smith, John Scott, William Dix, William Mayo, Richard Bibb, John Rogers, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomson Mason, Sterling Harwell and Richard Lee.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "for reforming county courts," being read;

*Resolved*, That this House, will, on the first Monday in October next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, for appropriating the public revenue," that they receive a clause or clauses, for appropriating the land tax arising within the borough of Norfolk, towards paying the debt due from this State to the said borough, for public buildings destroyed by order of Convention.

An engrossed bill, "to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of rider, to repeal all other taxes upon tobacco exported, except the tax imposed by an act, "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco into one act;" and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House to be added to the said bill, by way of rider.



*Resolved*, That the bill, with the ryder, do pass ; and that the title be, " an act, to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the petition of Simon Nathan, and the papers relative to his claim were referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee to whom the papers relative to Peter de la Croix were referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

It appears to your committee, that after Captain de la Croix's arrival on the Eastern Shore of this Commonwealth, there happened some disagreement between his sailors and himself ; that the sailors arrested him in three several suits in the county of Accomac, where he had a full opportunity of being heard in his defence, but, denying altogether the jurisdiction of the court, he refused to make any defence in the said suits ; and that on their trial, the jury who were sworn to try the cause, found a verdict against him ; that no partiality or prejudice appears to have governed the said court or jury during the said trial, and the same forms and ceremonies were observed as are used between citizens of this Commonwealth.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Captain de la Croix petitioned the General Assembly in 1780, to redress him in this case, upon a supposition, that the magistrates of Accomac, had been partial on the trial, in the said suits ; that in order to give every satisfaction to a foreigner, unacquainted with our laws and language, the General Assembly then ordered that prosecutions should be instituted in the General Court, by the Attorney General, against the said magistrates, that the truth might be fully discovered, and if any mal-practices had been used toward the said Captain de la Croix, the said magistrates might be punished.

That accordingly such prosecutions were commenced, and in April court 1783, the several prosecutions thus instituted were tried and determined, when the court and jury decided in favor of the said magistrates, against the said Peter de la Croix.

*Resolved, therefore*, That after two fair and full judiciary hearings, it would be inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this country, for the Legislature to re-consider the subject. But as the prosecutions in the General Court were ordered by the Legislature,

*Resolved*, That the costs attending those several prosecutions ought to be paid by the public ; and that the treasurer do immediately pay the same out of any public money in his hands.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth ; also, on the bills " to repeal the act, ' to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State ' " and, " to amend the act, ' to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act, " being read ;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, June 21, 1783.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the resolution respecting Anthony Tucker Dixon to them recommitted, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

It appears to your committee, that the said Dixon was appointed an assistant surgeon to the first minute battalion and the second Virginia regiment, in which capacity he served from the month of October 1775, until the sixth of July following, when he received an appointment of apothecary to the continental hospital, under which appointment he acted until the seventh of September 1780, when he resigned the said appointment, and immediately entered as surgeon to Colonel Porterfield's regiment, in which he continued until the said regiment was reduced and annexed to the regiment commanded by Colonel Dabney.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Anthony Tucker Dixon, praying that he may be allowed the same portion of land, and the same advantages of depreciation, which regimental surgeons are by law entitled to ; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That when this House adjourns on Saturday next, it will adjourn until the first Monday in October next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the resolution respecting George Draper to them recommitted, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said George Draper, being an inhabitant of the county of Prince William, did, in the month of December 1775, enter as surgeon's mate to the minute battalion commanded by Colonel William Grayson; that the said Draper continued in that service until the month of April 1776, when he engaged as surgeon's mate in the third Virginia regiment, commanded by Colonel Hugh Mercer; that he continued to discharge his duty in that regiment until the 11th of April 1777, when he was appointed by Congress second surgeon in the general hospital, in which capacity he acted until the 7th of October 1780, when he was appointed by Congress physician and surgeon to the hospital, in which department he acted until the 3d of February 1782, when he resigned.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said George Draper, praying that his pay and depreciation account may be settled in the same manner and upon the like proof as is prescribed in the case of officers and soldiers, and that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as is given by law to the surgeons of the Virginia line in continental pay; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the value of the two horses lost by Major Alexander Stuart, at the battle of Guilford, and which the present General Assembly determined he should be paid for, be ascertained by the auditors of public accounts, and a certificate granted by them for the same, in like manner as articles impressed or taken for public service.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That General Lawson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by General Stephens:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to several resolutions respecting the value of two horses lost by Major Alexander Stuart at the battle of Guilford; and also, concerning Thomas Collier, John Daniel and James Bowdoin, commissioners under the two per cent. tax; and granting allowances for the relief of John Groom and Jehu Brown. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "directing the enlistment of guards for the public prison and stores;" also, to the bill "giving certain powers to the trustees of the town of Portsmouth;" and to the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs.'" And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of two commissioners for auditing certain public claims, conformable to an act of the present session, entitled "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several other bills to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said enrolled bills to the Senate for their examination.

The House proceeded to consider the report and resolutions agreed to by the committee to whom was referred the petition of Simon Nathan and other papers respecting the claim of the said Nathan, against the Commonwealth, which lay on the table; and the same being again read at the clerk's table, are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Mr. Nathan's claim is founded on sundry bills of exchange drawn by General Clarke, Colonel Todd, and one by Henry Crutcher, between the months of May and October 1779, an accurate account of which bills and their value they find to have been stated by Governor Jefferson, thus:

# BILLS

TAKEN UP BY MR. NATHAN AT THE HAVANNA,

To be paid at the rate of one hundred pounds of tobacco for every four and one-sixth dollars, expressed in the bill.

By whom drawn.	To whom payable.	On whom drawn.	Date 1779.	Place.	Deprecia.	Sums in bills	Worth in sil. dolls.	Consideration.
Colonel Clarke.	Mr. Huberdeau.	Trea'r. of Virginia.	May 21.	Kaskaskias.	5 1-2	1 900 dollars.	163 63	sund. furnish.
Ditto.	Ant. Bienvenue.	O. Pollock, N. O.	May 27.	Kaskaskias.	1	1 400	400	Ditto.
Ditto.	Ma. Rocheblave.	Trea'r. of Virginia.	June 6.	Kaskaskias.	1	1 200	200	Ditto.
Ditto.	Ant. Bienvenue.	Trea'r. of Virginia.	June 24.	Kaskaskias.	8	1 141	17 62	Ditto.
Colonel Todd.	Pierre Ganelin.	Gov'r. of Virginia.	June 26.	S. Vincenes.	4	1 3,004	751	mo. advanced.
Ditto.	Col. Legrass.	Gov'r. of Virginia.	June 26.	Ditto.	4	1 2,188	547	Ditto.
Ditto.	Joseph Pieredeau.	Gov'r. of Virginia.	June 27.	Ditto.	4	1 1,136	284	Ditto.
Ditto.	Joseph Andrews.	Gov'r. of Virginia.	June 27.	Ditto.	4	1 2,949	737 25	Ditto.
Ditto.	Mou. Rauchere.	Gov'r. of Virginia.	June 27.	Ditto.	4	1 2,887	719 25	provisions.
Colonel Clarke.	Colonel Legrass.	Trea'r. of Virginia.	July 17.	S. Vincenes.	6	1 3,950 3-5	658 43	sund. furnish.
H. Crucher.	Mo. Charleville.	Colonel Clarke.	Aug. 6.	Kaskaskias.	10	1 2,260	226	value received.
Colonel Clarke.	D. Mr. Luetot.	Trea'r. of Virginia.	Oct. 29.	F. of Ohio.	24	1 18,814	784 33	mo. advanced.
Ditto.	Ditto.	Trea'r. of Virginia.	Oct. 29.	Ditto.	24	1 6,500	270 83	sund. furnish.
A Dollar rated at 5 Livres.							46,472 8	5949 87

It further appears to your committee, that the value of the said bills has since the acceptance been fixed by Governor Jefferson agreeable to a scale of depreciation fixed on by General Clarke and Colonel Todd, in the following papers:

## State of depreciation of the Continental and State bills of credit in Illinois, 1779.

From the 1st of May till Col. Montgomery's arrival } about 10th June, one silver dollar worth in paper }	At Kaskaskia. from 5 to 6.	St. Vincenes. from 3-2.	Kohokia. 4 dolls.
From 10th June, till about 10th July, while the regiment was at Kaskaskia, and on way to St. Vincenes,	from 6 to 10.	from 4	5
From 10th July to middle of August,	stood at 10.	from 4 to 8.	6
From 15th August till 1st October,	rose 10 to 15.	from 8 to 12.	8
From 1st October to 15th November,	rose 15 to 30.	from 12 to 15.	10

"I hereby certify that the above table of depreciation, made out by Col. Todd, is just, as far as I can recollect; that all bills which were drawn by me on New Orleans were passed at the rate of a hard dollar for every one named in the bill, and all which were drawn on the Governor, or treasurer of Virginia, were for paper dollars, and understood to be at such state of depreciation as prevailed at the time and place of drawing. The draughts in livres were at five livres to a dollar, to be paid in silver if on New Orleans, or in depreciated dollars as above, if drawn on Virginia.

G. R. CLARKE."

(A copy)—ARCHIBALD BLAIR.



It further appears to your committee, that General Clarke, in a letter to Colonel Legrass, uses this expression: "As well as I could recollect your accounts and those of Major Linetot against the State were for the value of gold and silver, and expected that my letter to the Governor, respecting him, would have reached Williamsburg before you left that place."

It further appears to your committee, from the books of accounts of William Shannon, who drew several of the bills which were countersigned by General Clarke, that the said bills were drawn for articles furnished the troops at the most extravagant prices; such as forty dollars per gallon for taffia, one dollar a pound for salt, eight dollars a bushel for Indian corn, and a dollar a pound for tobacco.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner, Simon Nathan, took up these bills at the Havanna and New Orleans; and, as he says, at the rate of a silver dollar for every paper dollar, without knowing that they had been drawn at a depreciated rate.

It further appears to your committee, that in the winter 1780, the petitioner presented the bills to the Executive of this State for payment, who, supposing they had been negotiated by the drawers as specie, assumed payment of them, by endorsing on every bill these words: "March 1780, accepted, to be discharged in tobacco at twenty-five shillings the hundred, by advice of Council."

THOMAS JEFFERSON."

That in June following, on Mr. Nathan's application for payment, the Council came to the following resolution:

"IN COUNCIL, June 8, 1780.

"The board is of opinion that the bills of exchange drawn on this State, and taken up by Mr. Simon Nathan at New Orleans, should be discharged agreeable to the assumpsit underwritten on them in tobacco at four dollars and one sixth (according to the number expressed in the bills) for every hundred weight; they advise the Governor to give him an order at this present time on Benjamin Day, Esquire, for 100,000 lbs. of crop tobacco on the upper warehouses, and an assumpsit in favor of Messrs. Ross, Shore & Company, for 100,000 lbs. of like tobacco at the upper warehouses, and to assure him that he shall receive the balance so soon as it can be paid, and interest thereon in the mean time at the rate of six per centum per annum."

It further appears to your committee, that in the fall 1780, General Clarke and Colonel Todd came to Richmond and delivered in to the Executive the certificate and scale of depreciation above mentioned, at the same time informing them that the bills drawn on the Governor and treasurer of Virginia (when it was known that none but paper dollars were in circulation) were negotiated as paper dollars according to their depreciation at the time of drawing the bills, and that government had received value for them at that rate only: the Executive then finding that they had too hastily assumed the payment of the bills, and supposing that Mr. Nathan could not stand on a better footing than the original holders of the bills, informed the petitioner that they did not consider him as entitled to more than the hard money value of the bills at the time of their being drawn; but the petitioner still insisting on the legal obligation of their assumpsit, they proposed to him to refer the matter in dispute to the arbitration of gentlemen of other States, of character and knowledge of the laws.

It further appears to your committee, that in March 1781, the then Executive applied to two Judges of the High Court of Chancery, Messrs. Pendleton and Wythe, for their opinion, who gave them as follows:

"EDMUNDSBURG, March 7, 1781.

"SIR,—Relying on the honor of government to keep the case on which my opinion is required out of our Courts of Justice, I see no impropriety in giving it, as you have done me the honor to request: the ground on which it is supposed a Court of Equity might relieve against that acceptance which made a new contract between the Executive and Mr. Nathan, is, that the drawers allege the bills on the Governor and treasurer of Virginia were payable in paper money, and in consequence a value was received for them only according to the then depreciation of that paper; on which head a very proper inquiry seems to be, whether the bills themselves pointed out the sort of money that was to be paid for them or the specific value received? I suppose neither, as that would neither have escaped Mr. Nathan in his purchase, nor the Executive in their acceptance, and that the bills were in the usual and general form, requiring the payment of so many dollars for value received; in which case the bills drawn in the wilderness, and circulated through one Spanish government into another, gave no clue to Mr. Nathan to suppose that any other than silver dollars were intended, so as to put him on his guard. Again, he might very properly say, I run no risk in allowing specie value for the bills, since if it should prove otherwise, and that any other mode of payment should be proposed by those on whom they are drawn, I can declare the proposition, procure a protest of the bills, and have recourse for my money to the endorser from whom I purchase. He accordingly pays full specie value, and presents his bills, which are accepted, and a mode of payment fixed to the satisfaction of both parties; a large payment is accordingly made, and near a year elapsed before any notice is given to Mr. Nathan that government had any objection to the payment as stipulated. The Executive were deceived indeed, but by whom? Not by Mr. Nathan, who, as he paid the same he demanded, was an innocent and fair purchaser; I will not say that those worthy gentlemen who drew the bills were guilty of deceit or neglect in the mode of drawing the bills, or in not giving timely notice of the different value got for them, since I impute these to the hurry they were in, and the difficulty of conveying timely intelligence; but surely the present difficulty is derived from that source, and it is more just that the State should bear the loss than that it should fall on a man who has the law on his side, is in no fault at all, and who has now lost that advantage a protest at first would have entitled him to, of recurring for his money to the man of whom he purchased the bills.

"Thus you discover, Sir, my opinion to be in favor of Mr. Nathan, an opinion however, drawn from general principles, and not from any determination I recollect on the subject. You and the Council will judge of the reasoning, and afterwards perhaps it may give the public more satisfaction to have the matter arbitrated in the way you proposed, than to have it rest on my judgment. I have the honor to be, the Council's and your excellency's most obedient servant,

EDMUND PENDLETON."

"Notwithstanding those to whom the bills were drawn immediately payable, could not have been entitled to more than the value received for them, I think that Mr. Nathan, the endorsee, if he were not privy to that transaction, and actually paid cash, or an equivalent for them at par when he took them up, may equitably, as well as legally, insist upon the assumpsit; because the terms of the contract between the drawers and original holders not appearing in the bill, as I suppose, it could bind only themselves and such as had notice of the terms, and the contract between him and the drawers was entered into without any deception which could make it appear unfair on his part.

"If he were not privy to the contract between the drawers and original holders, and had not mentioned anything of what he paid for the bills, he might have been irreprehensible; but having informed the Executive that he had taken them up at par, if he do not prove that fact, for otherwise the contrary is presumable, because it is in his power to do it, and the other party probably cannot disprove it; I think equity will relieve against the assumpsit upon this principle, that there was a *suggestio falsi* on his part, and an advantage gained by it. If he knew of the contract between the drawers and original holders, as he did not mention it to the Executive, although what he said of taking them up at par be true, it seems a disputable question whether there can be any relief. It would be going too far to say that in every bargain one party should disclose to the other whatever the former knows and it is the interest of the latter to know: a total silence, if the dealing in other respects be fair, may be innocent; but if one disclose part only of what he knows, and concealing the rest, by that means gain an unconscionable advantage, this seems a culpable suppression of the truth, because the other party confided in him, and that confidence was abused by not relating the whole truth. Frivolous as this might appear in a matter of light moment; in this case, I suspect the gain to have been enormous, and suppose Mr. Nathan to have been well apprised of the difference between paper bills, the only money which circulated in this Commonwealth, and gold and silver, I think it a good foundation for controverting his demand.

(Signed,)

G. WYTHE.

"WILLIAMSBURG, March 9th, 1781."

It further appears to your committee, that in consequence of directions from the Executive of this State, our delegates in Congress came to an agreement with the petitioner, by which they referred the dispute to the arbitration of Joseph Reid and William Bradford, jun. Esquires of Philadelphia, gentlemen of eminence in the law, whose award they agreed should be final on both parties. For the faithful performance of which, on his part, the petitioner entered into bond with security, in the penalty of 30,000*l.* which our delegates refused to do on their part, thinking the faith of the State, plighted by them, a sufficient security.

It appears to your committee, that the gentlemen above named did, on the 17th of February 1783, make their award, in the words following:

The underwritten, nominated and appointed to hear and determine a controversy subsisting between the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Mr. Simon Nathan, respecting certain bills of exchange drawn upon the said Commonwealth, assigned to Mr. Simon Nathan, and accepted by the Executive, do report:

"That we have heard and examined the witnesses, papers, and proofs, produced and laid before us, and having attentively considered the same, do find:

"*First*, That there is considerable proof that the bills drawn by Col. Clarke, in favor of Philip Legrass and L. M. Linetot, amounting to the sum of 31,463 dollars, were drawn for specie value.

"*Secondly*, That bills drawn on the Commonwealth of Virginia, about the same time, and by the same persons, were negotiated at New Orleans, at specie value; and that none (as far as we can learn) were negotiated at that place at a depreciated value.

"*Thirdly*, That it appears from the testimony before us, that Simon Nathan, has accounted or paid for all the bills since accepted as bills drawn from specie value.

"We, are therefore of opinion, that the acceptance of all the bills, is binding both in law and equity on the Executive of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that they ought to be discharged accordingly.

JOSEPH REID,  
WILL. BRADFORD, jun.

"PHILADELPHIA, February 17, 1783."

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the balance due on the said bills, ought to be paid by the Commonwealth, agreeable to the award given in favor of the said Simon Nathan, by Joseph Reid and William Bradford, jun. Esquires.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the said Simon Nathan ought to be allowed interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, on the balance due to him, from the 8th day of June 1780, agreeable to the resolution of the Executive of this State.

The said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.



*Ordered*, That Mr. Crittenden have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the memorial of Elizabeth Whiting, executrix of the estate of Peter Beverley Whiting, deceased, to them referred; and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the further consideration of the memorial of the said Elizabeth Whiting, praying that an act may pass, to enable the executors of the said Peter Beverley Whiting to dispose of part, or a tract of land in the county of Prince William, for the payment of his debts, be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

Mr. Wallace reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to vest certain escheated lands in the county of Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petitions of Tarlton Woodson and Reuben Taylor, to them referred, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, in the case of the said Tarlton Woodson, that he was, in the year 1775, appointed an officer in the first Virginia regiment, in which he continued until May 1777, when he was, by appointment, removed to the regiment of infantry commanded by Colonel Hazen, in which he acted in the capacity of a major, until March 1782, and was credited by this State, in part of the quota required by Congress.

It also appears to your committee, in the case of the said Reuben Taylor, that he was, on the 3d of November 1776, appointed lieutenant of a company in the regiment commanded by the said Hazen, that he acted under that appointment until the 3d of February 1778, when he was promoted to a captaincy, in which capacity he acted until the fall of the year 1781, when he resigned, and that he was credited by this State, in part of the quota required by Congress.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said Tarlton Woodson, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a major of the Virginia line, on continental establishment.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said Reuben Taylor, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a captain of the Virginia line, on continental establishment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases;" and that Messrs. Wallace, Kee, Strother and Hunter, do prepare and bring in the same.

The order of the day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "to repeal the act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, and for declaring who shall be deemed such citizens."

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said order be put off till the second Monday in October next;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 56,

Noes 27.

On a motion made by Mr. Thomson Mason, and seconded by Mr. Henderson;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, Nicholas Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, John Cunningham, Thomas Lumpkin, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, Andrew Neade, Thomas Claiborne, Robert Adams, jun. John Ward, William Green Munford, Thomas Collier, Robert Goode, George Carrington, French Strother, James Pendleton, George Wray, Charles Broadwater, John Barker, William Pickett, Alexander White, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, William Nelson, jun. Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. William Anderson. Thomas Johnson, jun. Henry Stokes, Thomas Pettus, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, Francis Worman, Isaac Avery, John Heath, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, Robert Lawson, Richard Bibb, Benjamin Harrison, Alexander Scott Bullitt, Abraham Bird, Mann Page, Thomas Towles, James Kee, Richard Cocke, Gray Judkins, Sterling Harwell, James Montgomery and Joseph Prentiss.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Abraham Outten, William Cabell, John Cabell, Robert Gilchrist, Carter Henry Harrison, George Booker, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Carter Braxton, Stephens Thomson Mason, Caleb Wallace, Maurice Smith, John Watkins, William



Dandridge, John Kearnes, William Moore, John Scott, William Ronald, John Thorowgood, Isaac Zaue, John Rogers, Thomson Mason, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee and Henry Tazewell.

The order of the day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal the act to prohibit intercourse with, and the admission of, British subjects into this State."

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the second Monday in October next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to suspend the operation of so much of any act or acts of Assembly as prohibits intercourse with British subjects," and to legalize such intercourse in certain cases; and that Messrs. Alexander White, Mann Page, Nicholas, Lawson and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also on the bills "to amend the act to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" "to amend the several acts concerning vestries;" and "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

### MONDAY, June 23, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act to vest certain escheated lands in Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that title be, an act "to amend an act entitled, 'an act, to vest certain escheated lands in Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wallace do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to proceed to day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of two commissioners to settle and adjust claims agreeable to an act of the present Session. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "to amend and reduce into one act the several acts of Assembly for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of two commissioners for auditing certain public claims agreeable to an act of the present Session; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Nicholas, William Cabell, Stephens Thomson Mason, and White, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Samuel Jones and Mayo Carrington, gentlemen.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting George Draper. And then he withdrew. 4  
Mr. Thomson Mason reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that from their remote situation, particular acts, for the regulation of their militia; to dispose of the orphans of poor people; respecting estrays; and to authorise the solemnization of the rites of matrimony by some civil power, may pass; and thereby relieve them from the present inconveniencies which they labor under for the want of them; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for preventing extensive credits, and to repeal the act prescribing the method of proving book debts,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and on a motion made, ordered to be read a second time on the second Monday in October next.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill "for establishing public ferries," be discharged from further proceeding therein.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill "to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and other purposes therein mentioned,'" be discharged from further proceeding therein.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, to whom the letter from the delegates of this State in Con-

gress, respecting the accounts of Oliver Pollock was referred," be discharged from further proceeding therein; and that the same be referred to the committee to whom the petition of Simon Nathan, was referred.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to confer with the directors of the public buildings respecting certain lands in the city of Richmond, the property of Thomas Turpin, which the directors intend to appropriate for public use; and in general, to examine into such other matters as the said directors may lay before them, respecting their proceedings, and make report thereof, to the House.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Braxton, Mann Page, Charles Carter, General Lawson, William Cabell and Richard Lee be of the said committee.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the several acts 'concerning vestries;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the further consideration of the said bill be postponed until the second Monday in October next,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 52,

Noes 28.

On a motion made by Mr. Nicholas, and seconded by Mr. Smith;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, the honorable John Tyler, Speaker, Abraham Outten, Thomas Parramore, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Thomas Lumpkin, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Everard Meade, John Cabell, John Ward, Robert Gilchrist, Robert Goode, George Carrington, William Watkins, George Wray, Charles Broadwater, John Barker, Alexander White, Thomas Mann Randolph, James McCraw, Isaac Coles, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, William Nelson, jun. John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Carter Braxton, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. Stephens Thomson Mason, John Carter, William Anderson, Thomas Johnson, jun. Thomas Pettus, William Curtis, Isaac Avery, John Heath, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, jun. Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Kemp, Mann Page, Charles Carter, James Kee, Richard Cocke, Richard Lee, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Newton.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, William Cabell, Nicholas Cabell, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, Dickinson Barksdale, Joel Watkins, French Strother, James Pendleton, George Booker, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, John Powell, Edward Ragsdale, Maurice Smith, John Watkins, John Kearnes, William Moore, John Scott, Robert Lawson, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, John Rogers of Southampton, Sterling Harwell, Arthur Campbell and James Montgomery.

A bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the memorial of the State officers, as prays that the officers and soldiers of the State line, the officers, marines and seamen of the State Navy, may be put on the same footing as the officers and soldiers of the Virginia continental line, with respect to their lands and certificates; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said memorial, as prays that effectual measures may be taken to secure to the said officers their half-pay, or a compensation for it; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That adequate funds ought to be established for paying to such of the said officers, as are entitled to the same, their half-pay, agreeable to law.

*Ordered*, That the 1st and 2d resolutions, do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d resolution; and that Messrs. Braxton, Nicholas, Strother, General Lawson, William Cabell, Mann Page, Zane, Prentis and Moore, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Harwell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Nelson, jun. be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to suspend so much of any act, or acts of Assembly, as prohibits intercourse with British subjects, and to legalize such intercourse, in certain cases."

A message from the Senate by Mr. Taylor:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops, to serve in the army of the United States;'" and "to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State's quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, June 24, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting Peter de la Croix; and for paying a sum of money to Moss Armistead; also, they have agreed to the bills "to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation;" "and for paying the wages of the members of the present General Assembly," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for paying the wages of the members of the present General Assembly;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by a resolution of the present session of Assembly, of the 4th of June 1783, the auditors of public accounts were directed to put William Sandidge on the list of pensioners, with an allowance, to commence in the month of October 1781; and it appearing to this House, from the petition of the said Sandidge, that his christian name is Joseph:

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said resolution of the 4th of June 1783, directing the auditors of public accounts to put William Sandidge on the list of pensioners, with an allowance, to commence in the month of October 1781, be rescinded; and that the auditors be directed to put Joseph Sandidge on the list of pensioners, with the same allowance.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a memorial and several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the memorial of Sampson Mathews, setting forth, that he did, in consequence of a letter from the Governor, accompanying an address to the people, obtain considerable sums of paper money from the inhabitants of Augusta, on loan to the public, which he entrusted to the care of Mr. Smyth Tandy to deliver at the treasury in Richmond, who on his way thither lost the sum of 4,376*l.* 13*s.* part thereof; that in order to recover the value thereof from the said Smyth Tandy, he instituted a suit in the General Court against him for that purpose, in which he was non-suited; and praying that he may be relieved from the said loss, being bound to



make it good, and that he may be reimbursed the costs of his said suit, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to grant certificates to the value of the said sum of 4,376*l.* 13*s.* reducing the same by the scale of depreciation, in the names of the several persons who advanced the same, agreeable to the Governor's address; and that they also grant to the memorialist a warrant for the amount of his said cost, to be paid out of the fund appropriated for the eastern defence.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such part of the petition of Lieutenant Colonel William Darke, as prays that the order which he received from his excellency the Governor on the treasurer, which has been protested by him, for 5,000 lbs. of tobacco, being for his proportion of the tobacco voted by a resolution of Assembly for the relief of certain officers, pensioners at New York, of which number he was one, may be receivable in taxes; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the sum of 7,200*l.* advanced him by a resolution of Assembly, as an officer of this State, and drawn for him from the public treasury in April 1781, but which he did not receive till the month of June following, may not be charged to him at the time that it was drawn, but from the time of his receiving it; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Michael Gratz, praying to be paid by the public for sundry merchandizes, amounting to 1,425*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* Pennsylvania currency, which he, and his partner John Gibson, furnished to Brigadier General George Rogers Clarke, at Fort Pitt, for the use of an expedition against the Indians several years ago, for the payment of which repeated applications have been made to the Executive without effect; and also, that the expenses which the said John Gibson incurred in coming to this place to negotiate the said business, may be reimbursed him, agreeable to the undertaking of the said General Clarke, who has given his private bond with security for the payment of the said debt, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue warrants for the said debt when reduced into the currency of this State, with an interest of six per centum per annum thereon, from the time that the same became due, until paid; and that the said John Gibson ought to be allowed his said expenses, to be settled by the auditors.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Nathaniel Fox, setting forth, that he entered early into the army of the United States, and was promoted to the rank of captain; that at the action of Brandywine he received several wounds, which rendering him unfit for service, he obtained permission from his excellency General Washington, to retire from the army till called for; that upon a reduction of the Virginia line in the month of August 1778, he was left out of the line, whereby he will lose many emoluments, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be considered as a captain of the Virginia line in continental service, and the like advantages and emoluments allowed to him as are allowed to other officers of the Virginia line in service, to be paid by this State, and charged to the continent.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thaddy Kelly, praying compensation from the public for the many services which he rendered the Marquis de la Fayette, during Lord Cornwallis's invasion, in giving him intelligence of the movements of the enemy, and in executing many confidential and important embassies, be rejected; the same being a continental claim.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Dr. Robert Nicolson, setting forth, that when this State was invaded in the year 1781, he was called upon to attend the militia in service, as a physician, which services he performed by attending them ninety days; that the public stores being moved from Williamsburg, no medicines could be procured, which obliged him to furnish the necessary supplies from his private stock, for which, as well as for his services, he has received no compensation, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the pay of a surgeon during the time that he was in service; and also, the sum of 30*l.* for the medicine chest by him furnished; and that the auditors issue their warrants to the petitioner accordingly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Moss, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he was by the Executive, appointed agent and clothier to the Virginia line, with the rations and forage of a major, in addition to his salary; that he cannot get his accounts, for some deficiencies in the said rations, settled, and praying relief; be rejected.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 4th resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d, 5th and 7th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration three resolutions respecting James Barnett, Le Roy Peachey, Thomas Rose and John Furbush Turner, to them recommitted, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Barnett, setting forth, that in the years 1780 and 1781, he commanded three companies of militia from the county of Amherst, who performed their several tours of duty; the pay rolls for which he settled in the month of September 1781, and received the money, which the men have since refused to accept, because of the depreciation of the same, and praying relief, is reasona-

ble; and that the auditors ought to re-audit two of the petitioner's pay rolls, for militia services performed in the years 1760 and 1781, and grant new certificates thereon in specie (it appearing to the committee, that depreciation ought to have been allowed thereon by the auditors when settled by them, as was done in the petitioner's other pay roll, but through some mistake was omitted,) and that the treasurer ought to receive from the petitioner the money by him drawn for the service of his said two companies of militia in 1781.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Le Roy Peachey, setting forth, that in the discharge of his duty as county lieutenant of Richmond, he did, in the year 1779, receive and disburse on public account, considerable sums of paper money; that the auditors have refused to settle his accounts for the same, except by the scale of depreciation, which he conceives would in many instances be unjust, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the sum of 4,462*l.* 5*s.* put into the hands of William Peachey, to be applied to the credit of the petitioner, in his account with the public, ought to be placed to the credit of the petitioner, without depreciation.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the several claims of the said Le Roy Peachey against the public for ferriages, provisions, &c. furnished the militia of his county, ought to be referred to the court of Claims in the said county of Richmond, for their inspection and decision thereon.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Rose and John Furbush Turner, praying that a reasonable compensation may be made them by the public for a small schooner, which was impressed from them in the month of January 1777, for the purpose of transporting part of the ninth Virginia regiment, from the county of Accomac to the head of Elk, and on her return was captured by the enemy; and also, a further compensation for the time that she was in public service, previous to her capture; for which the auditors have refused to make any allowance, be rejected; the same being a continental claim.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing bounties of land to Tarlton Woodson and Reuben Taylor. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That the committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petitions of George Rogers Clarke and John Crittenden, be discharged from further proceeding therein, and that the same be referred to the committee to whom the petition of Simon Nathan was referred.

Mr. Wallace presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to vest certain escheated lands in the county of Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school;" also, to the resolution for allowing Anthony Tucker Dixon a bounty of land. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the petitions of Thomas Bentley and Francis Conan were referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Thomas Bentley, setting forth, that at the commencement of the war he was an inhabitant of the Kaskaskias, and from his early endeavors to support the American cause, he has sustained great loss in his property, and also great injury in his personal liberty, having been taken a prisoner by the British in that country, and detained by them for a considerable length of time; that he is greatly indebted for contracts actually made for the good of the western service, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 13,221 silver dollars, being the amount of his debt against the public, which appears to be due to him for supplies furnished the Illinois troops; and that the auditors ought to grant warrants to the petitioner for the same, and allow him an interest of five per centum per annum thereon, for the term of two years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Francis Conan, setting forth, that in the years 1778 and 1779, he was called upon to attend the troops under the command of General Clarke in the Illinois country, as a physician and surgeon; that he accordingly engaged in that service, and continued therein for a considerable time, and actually furnished from his private stock of medicines the necessary supplies for the use of the said troops, for which a partial allowance has been made him, and praying further relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed in full for his said services and medicines the sum of 428*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* after deducting thereout the sum which has been advanced him; and that the auditors issue their warrants to the petitioner for such balance as shall appear to be due to him.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands late the property of John Connolly;" and that Messrs. Joseph Jones and Andrew Moore, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

There having appeared to this Assembly, in the consideration of Mr. Nathan's petition, some circumstances unknown to Joseph Reid and William Bradford, Esqrs. of Philadelphia, who were appointed to arbitrate the claim of the said Nathan against this State;



*Resolved*, That the said claim, together with all papers and other testimony relative thereto, be referred to any two gentlemen in the State of Maryland, one of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, with advice of Council, and the other by the said Nathan, who shall have power to arbitrate and finally determine all disputes and controversies arising upon the said claim, according to the principles of law and equity; and if they differ, to call in a third person, who shall act as umpire therein; the said Nathan entering into bond with security in the penalty of 15,000*l.* payable to the Governor of this Commonwealth, to abide by the award of the said arbitrators.

*Resolved*, That the attorney general of this Commonwealth, do attend the said arbitration, on the part of the Commonwealth; and that the Governor, with advice of Council, be empowered to draw on the treasurer for his reasonable expenses therein.

*Resolved*, That when such arbitration shall be final, that his excellency the Governor, in case the same should be in favor of the said Nathan, be empowered and required to pass to the said Nathan notes of credit for such balance as shall appear due to him; which shall be discharged out of such funds as the next session of Assembly shall provide for this and the other such like State debts.

And the said resolutions being twice read, were amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Nelson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Peachey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the treasurer to grant Thomas Dobyns a certificate for one thousand pounds of tobacco. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Shepherd leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for appointing naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne;" also, to the resolutions, respecting Nathaniel Fox; for re-auditing James Barnett's pay roll; and respecting several sums of money borrowed by Sampson Mathews for the use of government. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for making an allowance to the commissioners appointed to liquidate claims in the western country, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State's quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Gen. Nelson reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Doubts having arisen, whether the widow of any officer, soldier, sailor or marine, who hath died in the service intestate, and without heirs, would be entitled to the portion of land due to such officer, soldier, sailor or marine, for military services, or whether it would not rather escheat to the Commonwealth;

*Resolved*, That in such case, the said portion shall pass to the widow of such officer, soldier, sailor or marine, notwithstanding any obscurity in the laws on this subject.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "respecting the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the State line," that they receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the said resolution.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments reported from the committee of the whole House, to the bill "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act,'" which lay on the table; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also on the bills "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" and "to compel the counties of Din-



widdie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States,' being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 25, 1783.

A bill, "to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for appointing Naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for appointing Naval officers, and ascertaining their fees."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three month's wages;" and that Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Edmundson and Ruffin, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom that part of the letter from the delegates in Congress for this State, respecting the claim of Oliver Pollock, was referred, that the committee had had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears that a considerable number of bills of exchange, on which the said claim was founded, were drawn by persons not authorised so to do, and that the money received for the said bills, was applied to their private use.

It also appears, that the bills numbered 12, 25 and 34 are charged twice in the said Pollock's account; and that bills drawn by a continental agent, are charged in the said account.

It also appears, that a considerable sum charged in the said account, was for a cargo of goods shipped on account of Congress, and shipwrecked in the Mississippi, of which a small part only was applied to the use of this State.

It also appears, that there is the sum of 32,000 dollars charged in the same account as paid to Barbour, whereas from the report of the commissioners, there appears to be due to the said Barbour only the sum of 24,661 dollars.

It also appears, that the bill numbered 98, drawn by Captain George in favor of Philip Barbour, for 5,000 dollars, and charged in the said Pollock's account, has been credited to the said Barbour in his settlement with the commissioners.

It also appears, from the information of Charles Gratiot, that he negotiated at New Orleans, some bills of exchange drawn by Gen. Clarke upon Oliver Pollock, at a discount of 50 per centum; and that he was obliged to take the balance due on the said bills in goods, at an advance of 25 per centum on the selling price.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors ought to be directed to issue no more warrants in favor of the said Oliver Pollock; and that the treasurer ought to be directed to make no further payments on those already issued, until further orders from the General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to make no further payments on the warrants issued in favor of Daniel Clarke, until the further order of the General Assembly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three month's wages;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Herbert, praying to be paid by the public for a negro slave, who was by the county court of Norfolk, condemned for felony and executed, and by the said

court, valued to 1,500*l.* is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to reduce the said valuation into specie, agreeable to the scale of depreciation, and grant a warrant to the petitioner for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Edward Sanford and Thomas Sanford, inspectors of tobacco at Nominny warehouses, in the county of Westmoreland, setting forth, that agreeable to an order of the court of the said county, and being unacquainted with the particular appropriation of the tax on tobacco, they advanced and paid the sum of 113*l.* 17*s.* arising therefrom, for the necessary repairs done to the said warehouses, which the auditors have refused to allow in the settlement of their accounts, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts be directed to allow the said inspectors, in the settlement of their accounts, the sum of 113*l.* 17*s.* so as aforesaid applied to the reparation of Nominny warehouse.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Samuel Taylor, praying compensation from the public for the trouble and expense which he incurred in attending and boarding two sick soldiers by the names of David Norton and Thomas Taylor, and also that he may be reimbursed the sum of 4*l.* 4*s.* paid Doctor Reed for attendance on, and medicines furnished the said Thomas Taylor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed three shillings per day for attending and boarding the said Norton, and eight pence per day for Taylor, during the time that they remained at his house, and also that he ought to be reimbursed the said sum of 4*l.* 4*s.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Sarah Sanford, administratrix of James Wilson, deceased, in behalf of her testator, praying to be paid by the public for a negro slave, who was by the county court of Norfolk, condemned for treason and robbery, and executed, and by the said court valued at 2,000*l.* is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to reduce the said valuation into specie, agreeable to the scale of depreciation, and grant a warrant accordingly.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two resolutions, respecting Alexander Kilpatrick and Michael Gratz, to them recommended, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such part of the petition of Alexander Kilpatrick, late jailer of Augusta county, as prays an additional allowance from the public for the maintenance of sundry criminals, Tories and deserters, committed to his jail from the neighboring counties, because of the insufficiency of their jails, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed one shilling per day for every such person so committed, for which the auditors ought to grant their warrant, after deducting the sum already paid the petitioner, on account of such criminals.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as prays that a like allowance may be made him for all other criminals committed within the said county of Augusta, whilst he acted as jailer, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Michael Gratz, praying to be paid by the public for sundry merchandizes amounting to 1,425*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* Pennsylvania currency, which he and his partner John Gibson, furnished to Brigadier General George Rogers Clarke, at Fort Pitt, for the use of an expedition which was planned in the year 1781 against Detroit, but afterwards directed against the Indian settlements, for the payment of which repeated applications have been made to the Executive without effect; and also that the expenses which the said John Gibson incurred in coming to this place to negotiate the said business, may be reimbursed him agreeable to the undertaking of the said General Clarke, who has given his private bond with security for the payment of the said debt and expenses, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants for the said debt, when reduced into the currency of this State, with an interest of six per centum per annum thereon, from the time that the same became due; and that the said John Gibson ought to be allowed the sum of 137*l.* 8*s.* for his said expenses; to be paid together with the aforesaid debt, out of the military fund.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands, late the property of John Connolly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

4 **MR. SPEAKER,**—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for arbitrating Simon Nathan's claim; making the tobacco voted William Darke, whilst a prisoner in New York, payable in taxes; for putting Joseph Sandidge on the list of pensioners; for applying a sum of money to the credit of Le Roy Peachey, without depreciation; and for referring the claims of Le Roy Peachey against the public to a court of Claims; and then he withdrew.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State's quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Banister reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto; which he read in his

place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting Oliver Pollock and Daniel Clarke. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands, late the property of John Connolly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House to whom was referred the resolution, respecting Francis Taylor, be discharged from further proceeding therein.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Moore do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House to whom the bill for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance, was committed, be discharged from further proceeding therein.

The amendment following was then proposed to be made to the said bill, viz: "Strike out the last clause of the bill."

And the said amendment was twice read; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, as amended, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a return from the commissioners appointed to liquidate the western accounts; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 26, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

An engrossed bill, "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney, and affording them public assistance;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney."

*Ordered*, That General Lawson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands, late the property of John Connolly;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands, late the property of John Connolly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wallace do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for paying Francis Conan a sum of money; also, to the bills “for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;” and “to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, ‘for appointing Naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;’ with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting Thomas Bentley. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, a body of troops of this State’s line, in the continental army, has lately arrived in the town of Richmond from the southward, under the command of Capt. Parker, and other troops of the same line are daily expected to arrive in this State from the south, and as no provision, that is known to the legislature, hath been made for advancing three month’s pay to the said troops, previous to their being furloughed, as hath in like cases been done to the other troops in the service of the United States, and the General Assembly considering that it would be very unjust and ungenerous to send these brave troops home, after their long, dangerous, and meritorious services, without that reasonable advance of pay, which has been extended to all others of the continental troops at the time of furlough, have directed a sum equal to three month’s pay, to be advanced the said troops, out of the treasury of this State.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, to inform that honorable body of this proceeding and its cause, and to move Congress that the sum so advanced, be permitted to be deducted from the next payment to be made by the treasury of this State, to the continental receiver here; and that this resolve be transmitted to the delegates in Congress by the Governor.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill “directing the auditors to issue warrants in certain cases;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

An engrossed bill, “to ascertain certain duties and imposts, and to establish adequate funds for the discharge of this State’s quota of the principal and interest of the debt of the United States;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

The said bill being on its passage, a motion was made, and the previous question being put, that the question for the passage of the said bill, be not now put;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the commissioners for superintending the defence of the Chesapeake bay, be directed to sell all the armed vessels belonging to the public, except the boats Liberty and Patriot, in such manner as they think most advantageous; first making an offer of the ship Cormorant to Congress; and that they be directed to settle their accounts with the auditors, and pay any balances that may be in their hands, after deducting all reasonable expenses, to the treasurer.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, “to levy certain duties for the use of Congress;” and that Messrs. Tazewell, Banister and Joseph Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;’” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their 3d amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill “to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for appointing Naval officers, and ascertaining their fees.” And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for further continuing and amending the act, ‘for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;’” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto,

which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying a sum of money to Michael Gratz; and to the resolutions, respecting Samuel Taylor and Col. Francis Taylor. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of William Buckner, collector of the levies of the parish of St. Thomas, in the county of Orange, be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of General Weedon, in behalf of the heir of General Mercer, deceased, praying that as the said heir is deaf and dumb, the bounty in lands to which he is entitled by the death of his said father, may be vested in trustees, for his benefit and advantage, be rejected.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Paul Woolfolk to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Paul Woolfolk, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the warrants issued to the said Paul Woolfolk, for his services as an assistant to Thomas Smith, in stating the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States, by virtue of a resolution of the Assembly, in October 1781, ought to be received by the treasurer in the same manner as the warrants issued to the officers of civil government.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth :

It appears to your committee, that Matthew Pope was in the year 1777, appointed senior surgeon to the hospital in this State, who acted in that capacity until the said hospital was discontinued, when he was immediately appointed surgeon to Col. Marshall's regiment, in which he served until the month of October 1780, when he was appointed by the Executive, surgeon and apothecary to the troops in the service of this State, and continued to act in that capacity, until the month of January 1782.

It appears to your committee, that Joseph Hay acted as surgeon's mate to Dr. Galt, from the commencement of the war until July 1777, when he was appointed by the Executive apothecary to the general hospital, in which capacity he acted until the month of December 1779, when the said hospital was discontinued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Matthew Pope, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Matthew Pope, ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a regimental surgeon.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Joseph Hay, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Joseph Hay, ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands as is by law given to a regimental surgeon.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the resolution respecting the honorable James Monroe, to them recommitted, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

It appears to your committee, that the said James Monroe, in January 1776, joined the 3d Virginia regiment, in which he served in the character of lieutenant, during the said campaign; that at the close thereof he was promoted to the rank of a captaincy in one of the additional regiments ordered to be raised by Congress, under the command of Col. Thruston; that from that office he was appointed an aid-de-camp to Major General Lord Stirling, with the rank of major, which rank he held during the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, and until the latter end of February 1779, when he withdrew from the army, in consequence of the arrangement at White Plains.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said James Monroe, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, That the said James Monroe, ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands as is by law given to a major in the continental army.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the resolution, respecting Francis Taylor, to them recommitted, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

And it appears to the committee, that the said Francis Taylor was, in the year 1776, appointed a captain of a company in the second Virginia regiment; that he continued to act in that capacity until the year 1778, when he was appointed a major, and by the arrangement at White Plains in the month of September in the said year, he became a supernumerary officer, being a junior major.

It also appears, that the said Francis Taylor was, on the 24th of December in the said year 1778, appointed and commissioned a lieutenant colonel of the battalion of volunteers, to guard the British prisoners; that on the 5th of March following, he was appointed and commissioned colonel of the said regiment, and continued in the service until the month of June 1781, when the said regiment was disbanded.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Francis Taylor, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Francis Taylor ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is given by law to a major in the continental army.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee appointed to examine into the books of the solicitor, and the business of his office, that the committee had, according to order, examined the same, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, the solicitor has done the following services:

That he had compared the auditors' day-book and vouchers to May 1781; the journal and day-book from November 1778, to November 1780; that in December 1780, he was appointed solicitor, but acted as auditor at the desire of the Executive, until the 24th of January 1781, and had the auditors' books to examine from December 1778.

It further appears to your committee, that the auditors' ledger for paper money transactions, was posted up only to June 1782; their journal to August 1782; and their specie accounts journalized to September 1782; that the solicitor had only retained one clerk in his service, unless for the account with the continent.

It further appears to your committee, that the solicitor had examined the auditors' journal and ledger from December 1778, to March 1780, and has laid periodical lists of balances, and general states of expenditures, before the House of Delegates.

It further appears to your committee, that judgments have not been moved for by the solicitor, against individuals, because the auditor's books are not posted, and that the solicitor has been obliged to keep separate accounts with the sheriffs and naval officers, distinct from the auditors, to enable his proceeding against them.

It further appears to your committee, that the vouchers, prior to the establishment of the auditors office as a board, and since its establishment, to January 1781, were destroyed by the enemy.

It further appears to your committee, that a general state of expenditures is made out from September 1775, to January 1781, and a particular account of expenditures from January 1781, to January 1782, for the purpose of adjusting the account of this Commonwealth against Congress; and that from January 1782, the continental account will be stated in the auditors' books.

*Resolved, therefore,* That all clerks to be appointed by the solicitor, under "an act, for the more effectual collection of taxes and public dues," ought to have their warrants put upon the same footing with other officers of the civil government.

*Resolved,* That the auditors ought to be empowered to continue the present number of their clerks, until further directions of the Assembly.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Zane presented, according to order, a bill "to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, which have been prevented being done according to law;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for dissolving the vosity of the parish of Lynnhaven, in the county of Princess Anne;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, which have been prevented being done according to law;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Zane and Nicholas.

A bill, "directing the auditors to issue warrants in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for regulating the practice of Attornies;" and "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States,'" being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



FRIDAY, June 27, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and to locate warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the auditors to issue warrants in certain cases," was read the third time; and on the question being put that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 82,

Noes 6.

*Ordered*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, directing the auditors to issue warrants in certain cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Strother, and seconded by Mr. William Moore;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Abraham Outten, Thomas Parramore, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, William Cabell, Nicholas Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, Andrew Meade, Thomas Claiborne, John Ward, Robert Gilchrist, John Taylor, William Green Munford, Joel Watkins, Robert Goode, George Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pendleton, John Banister, William Watkins, George Wray, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, Charles Broadwater, John Powell, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, Thomas Mann Randolph, Thomas Underwood, James Mason, Isaac Coles, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. Stephens Thomson Mason, Thomas Johnson, jun. Henry Stokes, Edward Ragsdale, Samuel Goode, Maurice Smith, William Curtis, Francis Worman, James Campbell, William Dandridge, jun. John Kearnes, John Bowdoin, Isaac Avery, John Heath, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, William Mayo, William Ronald, Robert Lawson, Edmund Ruffin, jun. Benjamin Harrison, John Thorowgood, Thomas Kemp, Alexander Scott Bullitt, Abraham Bird, John Rogers, John Taylor, Mann Page, Richard Cocke, Gray Judkins, Richard Henry Lee, Thomas Nelson, jun. and Thomas Newton.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, French Strother, John Barker, James M'Craw, Turner Southall, William Moore and Richard Bibb.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of John Campbell, to them referred, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, by a resolution passed by the Assembly on the 23d of June 1780, that the agreement made on the 31st day of August 1779, between James Madison and Robert Andrews, commissioners for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and George Bryan, John Ewing and David Rittenhouse, commissioners for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, be ratified and finally confirmed, to wit: "that the line commonly called Mason's and Dixon's line, be extended due west five degrees of longitude, to be computed from the river Delaware for the southern boundary of Pennsylvania; and that a meridian drawn from the western extremity thereof, to the northern limits of the said States respectively, be the western boundary of Pennsylvania forever; On condition, that the private property and rights of all persons acquired under, founded on, or recognized by the laws of either country, previous to the date hereof, be saved and confirmed to them, although they should be found to fall within the other; and that in the decision of disputes thereupon, preference shall be given to the elder or prior right, whichever of the said States the same shall have been acquired under, such persons paying to that State, within whose boundary their lands shall be included, the same purchase or consideration money which would have been due from them to the State under which they claimed the right; and where any such purchase or consideration money hath, since the declaration of American Independence, been received by either State for lands, which, according to the before recited agreement, shall fall within the territory of the other, the same shall be reciprocally refunded and repaid."

It also appears, that the said John Campbell hath lately returned from a captivity of three years, and that from his confinement, he was unable to secure his title to lands taken up under the laws of, and supposed to lie in this State,

but are said to be within the territory ceded to the State of Pennsylvania, by which means there is danger of his title to the said lands not being confirmed without the payment of a large sum of money, as that State, it is suggested, makes no distinction between the settlers on the lands within their chartered limits and those ceded by this State; that the militia officers labor under difficulties from the apprehension of suits being commenced against them, by the individuals who were called into militia service under the laws of this State; that a judgment hath already been obtained against Lieutenant-Colonel Cox, for a considerable sum on that account, and that suits are now depending against two others for the same cause.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Governor ought to be desired to write to the Executive of the State of Pennsylvania, reminding them of the terms of the cession, as contained in the said resolution of the 23d of June 1780, and requesting that the Legislative, Executive and Judiciary departments of that State will, in all their proceedings, conform to the spirit and intention thereof.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive ought to appoint a surveyor or surveyors, in conjunction with others to be appointed by the State of Pennsylvania, to run the boundary lines, as agreed to by the commissioners from each State, at Baltimore, in the year 1779, to be binding on this State, in case the State of Pennsylvania shall conform to the conditions of the said cession.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for allowing a sum of money to Dr. Robert Nicolson. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, “for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Lynnhaven, in the county of Princess Anne;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Lynnhaven, in the county of Princess Anne.”*

*Ordered, That Mr. Newton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to amend the act, ‘for appropriating the public revenue;’” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thurston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.*

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;’” and “directing the auditors to issue warrants in certain cases.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also, they have agreed to the resolutions, for making certain allowances to Sarah Sanford, John Herbert and Alexander Kilpatrick; for continuing the present number of auditors’ clerks; making the warrants granted to Paul Woolfolk receivable in taxes; for putting the solicitor’s clerks upon the same footing with other officers of government; and directing the commissioners for the eastern defence, to sell the armed vessels belonging to the State; also, they agreed to the bills “to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases;” “to amend the act, ‘to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;’” “to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands, late the property of John Connolly;” and “for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding upon the resolutions committed to the said committee, respecting the memorial of the officers of the Virginia continental line.*

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, That it would be improper to determine upon that part of the memorial of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, presented to this session of Assembly, which prays for a grant of lands on the north westerly side of the Ohio, until it is known whether Congress will accept of the cession of that country in the manner proposed by this Commonwealth.*

*Resolved, That as soon as the business of the said cession shall be finally determined on, the consideration of the said memorial ought to be resumed and complied with, as far as may consist with the terms of such cession.*

*Resolved, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, be instructed to apply to Congress to agree to such alteration in the terms of the cession, as may enable the General Assembly of this Commonwealth to comply with the prayer of the said memorial; and that the Executive be desired to transmit this resolution, with a copy of the said memorial, to our delegates in Congress.*

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:



*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, do appoint some proper person or persons, to procure men, provisions, and other necessities, for the boats Liberty and Patriot, and to keep them manned and equipped, in such manner as to prevent running of goods subject to duties.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from General Lincoln, which were read, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State, for the public use.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Thruston, Richard Henry Lee, Nicholas, Page and White, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney;" and the same being read were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lawson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the Governor with the advice of the Council, is by an act of the present session empowered to enlist a guard for the public jail; and it is judged that it will be less expensive, and the criminals equally secure, (were a brick wall built around the new prison,) without such guard.

*Resolved*, therefore, That the Governor, with the advice of the Council, be empowered and required to cause the public directors to have a brick wall built around the new prison, if it shall appear to them more expedient than the keeping up such guard, the expense of which shall, by order of the Executive, be paid out of the contingent fund.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the petition of Charles Gratiot, attorney for Godfrey Linetot, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears that there is due to Godfrey Linetot the sum of 5,155 dollars.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer ought to be directed to pay to Charles Gratiot, attorney for the said Linetot, the sum of 300 dollars for his present relief; and that the auditors issue their warrants for the balance, with an allowance of two years interest, at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be paid out of such fund as shall be hereafter established for the payment of debts of a similar kind.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the bill of exchange numbered eight, ought to be returned to the said Charles Gratiot.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee appointed to confer with the directors of the public buildings in the city of Richmond, that the committee had, according to order, proceeded therein, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the increase of the said city on Shockoe hill has been, and must continue to be retarded, as long as it remains uncertain from the present rumors, whether the public buildings are to be erected on said hill or Richmond hill: that, from a confidence founded on an act of Assembly constituting the said directors, and their subsequent proceedings, by which Shockoe hill has been determined to be a fit place and situation for those buildings, several persons have purchased lots and built houses thereon, most of their purchases having been dictated by an expectation of being in some manner occupied in public business, the injury will be doubled to them by the necessity of purchasing again from the holders of lands on Richmond hill, who, (there being only two proprietors,) would be more free from the control, which competition imposes upon prices; that this inconvenience will not be confined to the officers of government alone, but to all who from any motive may be led to establish themselves in the neighborhood of the houses of State:

That the Commonwealth have a property in the following lots and tenements, now applied to public uses and accruing under the acts of sequestration and confiscation, to wit: Cunningham & Company, in which the Assembly sit, of the supposed value of 2,400*l*. Minzie's store, now in charge of the quarter-master, of the supposed value of 1,000*l*. Of three unimproved lots, and two acres and an half of land used by the public artificers, of the supposed value of 850*l*. French and Crawford's tenements, employed for a treasury, printing office, and issuing house, of the supposed value of 1,500*l*. James M'Dowell's half of Buchanan & M'Dowell's tenement, occupied by the auditors,



of the supposed value of 800*l*. And a lot of Andrew Chalmer's, on which formerly stood a store-house, burned by Arnold, of the supposed value of 75*l*. The whole amount of which supposed value is 6,625*l*. That it is calculated (but in this accuracy is by no means affected) that the transfer of the public buildings from Shockoe to Richmond hill, will occasion a probable diminution of value even as far as 4000*l*. and indeed an important one, as those tenements are used for the temporary purposes of government, and will be sold as soon as an establishment takes place.

That the Commonwealth is further entitled to, and have actually paid for, the tenement and four lots now occupied by the Governor, of the probable value of 2000*l*.; and of Zachariah Rowland's tenement, with one lot, of the probable value of 1.000*l*.; and that the difference of worth produced by the exchange of the situation of the public buildings will amount to nearly 1,750*l*.

That, for the permanent uses of government, the directors have resolved to appropriate nineteen lots on Shockoe hill, besides Marsden's and Rowland's tenements, which are already paid for; that the sum of money which will probably be required for the purchase of those nineteen lots (estimate by what such lots lately sold for) will not exceed 1,936*l*.

That the said directors have, agreeable to an act of Assembly, annexed to the city of Richmond forty-five lots on Shockoe hill, laid off from the lands of Horatio Turpin; forty-eight lots on Richmond hill, laid off from the lands of Richard Adams; and having surveyed the boundaries, they intend further to annex to the said city about sixty lots from the lands of Charles Lewis, part lying on Richmond hill, adjoining the lots of the said Adams, towards Gillie's creek: the remainder, including all the lands of the said Lewis below the hill and to the westward of said creek.

That Richard Adams, Esq. one of the two proprietors of the lots on Richmond hill, and Horatio Turpin, one of the many proprietors on Shockoe hill, and owner of the most valuable lots thereon fit for public use, appeared in person before your committee; that the said Adams has offered for public benefit, as a donation, twelve lots of land on Richmond hill, fit, in his opinion, for the public buildings; and the said Turpin has offered, in the same manner, two acres and a half or five lots upon the hill, on which the house now used by the Executive stands, he to be paid for the public buildings thereon a reasonable consideration, supposed they are worth about 400*l*. That it is proposed by the said directors to restore to the said Turpin all the rest of the ground taken from him for public use, waiting till a future day for the purchase of a pasture, and what further may be absolutely necessary for the Governor's square: that several lots more must be purchased from the said Adams if the public buildings should be erected on Richmond hill.

The said directors entreated your committee, to move for a speedy decision of this doubtful point, and to call to mind how much the purchasers of lots on Shockoe hill have relied on the plighted faith of the General Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the present and future holders of lots on Shockoe hill be assured that it is the determination of the General Assembly to continue the preference hitherto given to Shockoe hill, as the situation of the public buildings; and that the directors make a full report of their proceedings to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the treasurer pay to the directors of the public buildings so much money, as shall be sufficient to complete the payment to the workmen for building the public jail, so soon as the same shall be completed, out of the money received for the soldiers tax, or, that arising from the tax on tobacco, for the defence of the bay.

The first resolution being read a second time, the amendment following was proposed to be made thereto, viz: strike out from the word "that" in the second place of the first line to the end of the resolution, and insert "the seat of government ought to be removed from the city of Richmond to the city of Williamsburg."

And the question being put thereupon,

It passed in the negative.

Ayes 55,

Noes 39.

And then the main question being put, that the House do agree to the said resolution,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The subsequent resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Braxton do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. William Cabell, and seconded by Mr. Stuart;

*Ordered,* That the names of the ayes and noes on the question to agree to the amendment proposed to the first of the foregoing resolutions be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Abraham Outten, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, William Green Mumford, George Wray, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, John Barker, Thomas Smith, William Norvell, William Nelson, Henry Todd, Joseph Jones, Carter Braxton, Henry Towles, Stephens Thomson Mason, John Carter, Maurice Smith, William Curtis, John Cowper, John Watkins, William Dandridge, jun. John Kearnes, Isaac Avery, John Thornton, John Heath, Robert Lawson, Edmund Ruffin, Benjamin Harrison, John Thorowgood, Thomas Kemp, Alexander Scott Bullitt, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomson Mason, Richard Cocke, Richard Lee, Thomas Nelson, jun. Henry Tazewell and Thomas Newton.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Edward Carter, William Cabell, Nicholas Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, Archibald Stuart, Andrew Meade, John Cabell, Dickinson Barksdale, John Ward, Robert Gilchrist, John Taylor of Caroline, Joel Watkins, George Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, James Pendleton, William Watkins, Alexander Henderson,

William Pickett, John Powell, Alexander White, Charles Myun Thruston, Thomas Mann Randolph, Thomas Underwood, James McCraw, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Hugh Innes, Thomas Coleman, James Ball, jun. William Anderson, Thomas Johnson, jun. Edward Ragsdale, Caleb Wallace, Samuel Goode, Francis Worman, James Campbell, William Moore, John Scott, William Mayo, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Abraham Bird, John Rogers, Mann Page, Thomas Towles and James Montgomery.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to levy certain duties for the use of Congress," and delivered in the same at the clerk's table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the first reading of the said bill be postponed until the second Monday in October next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Lynnhaven, in the county of Princess Anne;" also, to the resolutions for granting bounties of lands to Reuben Taylor and James Monroe. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Taylor:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for paying the soldiers, late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;" also, to the resolutions respecting the lands to be laid off as bounties for the Virginia line on continental establishment; for building a brick wall around the new jail; and respecting the memorial of John Campbell, and the boundary line with Pennsylvania. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Thruston presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State, for the use of the United States;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Zane reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, which have been prevented being done according to law," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for providing provisions and other necessities for the use of the boats Liberty and Patriot. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Smith Stevens be continued on the list of pensioners; it appearing, from a certificate of the clerk of the county court of Northumberland, that he lost his left leg in the continental service.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Johnston do carry the resolution to the Senate and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State, for the use of the United States," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to compel the counties of Dinwiddie, Essex, Fauquier, and King and Queen, to comply with the act, 'for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendments thereto.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill do lie on the table.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "for regulating the practice of Attornies," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, June 28, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State, for the use of the United States;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.



*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State, for the public use."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for giving further time for the probatation of deeds and other instruments of writing, which have been prevented being done according to law," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to give further time for the probatation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the petition of Francis Bossoron was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears that there is due to the said Francis Bossoron 5,024l. 10s. 6d. specie.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer ought to be directed to pay to the said Francis Bossoron the sum of 300 dollars, out of any public money in his hands, for his present relief; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants for the balance, with an allowance of two years interest thereon, at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be paid out of such funds as shall be hereafter established for the payment of debts of a similar kind.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the bill of exchange numbered nine, and the certified account numbered five, ought to be returned to the petitioner.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the petition of Philip Legrass was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears that there is due to the said Philip Legrass the sum of 1,339 dollars and an half.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer ought to be directed to pay to the petitioner the sum of 300 dollars, out of any public money in his hands; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants for the balance, with an allowance of two years interest thereon, at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be paid out of such funds as shall be hereafter established for the payment of debts of a similar kind.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee to whom the petition of Francis Carbonneaw was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears that there is due to the said Francis Carbonneaw the sum of 3,173 dollars.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer ought to be directed to pay to the said Francis Carbonneaw the sum of 300 dollars, out of any public money in his hands, for his present relief; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants for the balance, with an allowance of two years interest thereon, at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be paid out of such funds as shall be hereafter established for the payment of debts of a similar kind.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the bill of exchange numbered twelve, ought to be returned to the petitioner.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions and a resolution to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Francis Smith, praying relief from a judgment lately recovered against him by the solicitor in the General Court, for a sum of money which he received in the year 1776, for the purpose of recruiting men, and which he deposited in the Loan Office, because the auditors would not settle his accounts and make him an allowance agreeable to his recruiting instructions; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly; and that in the mean time, the solicitor ought to sue out an execution upon the said judgment, against the petitioner.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Bowyer, praying to be reimbursed a sum of money which he advanced in the year 1777, for the support of a number of recruits marched from this State to the State of New Jersey; be rejected, the same being a continental claim.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Samuel Barron Cunningham, praying compensation from the public for the damage done to the brigantine Wilkes, and also for the loss of a considerable quantity of tobacco, together with her guns, military stores, and provisions on board, which vessel was impressed by order of the Executive in the year 1781, for the purpose of assisting some French ships then in Hampton road, and whilst



detained in that service, a British fleet arrived, into whose hands she fell, and was sunk, with her cargo, &c. which has been lost, and much damage done to the hull of the said vessel, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Samuel Finley, a major in the Virginia continental line, praying that his proportion of the tobacco, voted by a resolution of Assembly, for the relief of himself and others, whilst prisoners at New York, which he never received, may now be advanced to him; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Brannon, praying relief, in consideration of his having lost the use of one side by hard labor, whilst in the service of the United States as an artificer, be rejected; the same being a continental claim.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Robertson, setting forth, that as inspector commissary of issues on continental account in this State, he has considerable arrears of pay due to him; and also, that he has made sundry advances of money for supplying the troops of this State with provisions, for which he has received no satisfaction, and praying that his accounts for the same may be liquidated, and relief granted him; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Abraham Green, William Ford, John Howson, Edward Booker and George Booker, praying to be paid for their attendance on the General Court in 1773, as venire men from the county of Amelia, on the trial of Joseph Berry, for which the auditors have refused to make an allowance; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Duncan Rose, setting forth, that in the year 1781, there was a debt due to him in tobacco from the public, in part payment of which he received two auditors' warrants payable in paper money, which he never was able to draw from the treasury, by reason of the confusion which the State was in, from the invasions of the enemy; and praying that the said warrants may be again reduced into tobacco; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Nathaniel Barrett, an inhabitant of the State of Massachusetts, praying that he may be relieved from the payment of his bond given to the naval officer of York river, for the duties on certain goods, which he was obliged to land from on board the brigantine General Galvez, in consequence of her being chased up the said river by the enemy's cruisers, and were immediately re-shipped for Baltimore, the port to which she was destined; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Matthew Watts Hatton, praying compensation from the public for two chests of artificer's tools, which he furnished for the use of the artificers in the service of this State, and which were destroyed by the enemy, ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Henry Lee, jun. lieutenant colonel commandant of the partisan legion, praying that the value of a horse which he purchased for the use of his legion from a certain William Warwick, in whose favor he drew an order on the treasurer of this State, and which he has never received, may be paid to him, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants to the said William Warwick, for such a sum of money, as shall appear to them to be the value of the said horse.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the resolution for empowering the auditors of public accounts to liquidate, adjust and settle all accounts of officers and soldiers of this State, previous to the first of January 1777; ought to be rejected.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st and 11th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the treasurer do pay to each of the commissioners appointed to equalize the land tax, out of any fund in his hands, the sum of 35*l*. to enable them to comply with actual specie engagements for paper, books, and the expenses of dispersing the accounts, deducting the same from the allowance made by law for their services;

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

Whereas, from the destruction of some of the public books and papers by the enemy, the monies formerly borrowed on public account cannot be ascertained with precision;

*Resolved,* That all certificates issued from the treasury for paper money, borrowed for the use of the State, be brought in to the auditors, who are hereby required to reduce the same to specie according to the scale of depreciation at the time the money was lent, certifying on the back of each certificate, the amount of the principal sum so reduced, and the interest due thereon; the certificate so certified, shall be returned to the holder, and an alphabetical list of them to the next session of Assembly.

And whereas, by an act passed in October session, in the year 1778, the Loan Office certificates issued previous to the passing the said act, were directed to be taken in and cancelled, and in lieu thereof, new certificates to issue, which in many instances was done, whereby the lenders of money to the public, suffer considerable loss in the depreciation: for remedy whereof;

*Resolved,* That where sufficient proof can be made to the auditors, in cases where certificates have been so renewed, the auditors shall settle the said certificates according to the rate of depreciation, at the time the money was actually lent to the State.

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.  
*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, a resolution of the last session of Assembly directed the treasurer to pay Matthew Pate, the sum of 4*l*. 10*s*. 3*d*. out of the civil list fund, being the amount of his account against the public, for going as a special messenger to take into custody delinquent members of the House of Delegates; and the said account not having been discharged;

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay the same out of any public money in his hands.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the quarter-master general of this State, be directed to cause the cannon ball and other military stores near the public buildings, to be removed therefrom, and deposited in some more safe and convenient place.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly, for their services during the present session:

To the Reverend Mr. Blagrove, Chaplain,	-	-	-	£ 80 0 0
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates,	-	-	-	250 0 0
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate,	-	-	-	140 0 0
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, clerk of the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances,	-	-	-	120 0 0
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice, and Claims,	-	-	-	96 0 0
To Mr. Charles Hay, clerk of the committee of Commerce, 5 <i>l</i> . per week, from the time of his appointment,	-	-	-	
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, serjeant at arms to the House of Delegates,	-	-	-	96 0 0
To Mr. William Pierce, serjeant at arms to the Senate,	-	-	-	96 0 0
To John Creagh, William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, and John Hicks, door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each,	-	-	-	36 0 0
To William Hicks and Thomas Paul, door-keepers to the Senate, each,	-	-	-	36 0 0
To Elizabeth Jones, for taking care of, and keeping clean the Assembly House,	-	-	-	10 0 0

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Dennis M'Carty, a disabled soldier, be continued on the list of pensioners.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

'The order of the day being read, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House; on the bill "to amend the act, for regulating the practice of Attornies,"

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the third Monday in October next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Thomas Hightower, jun. a wounded militia man, who has been deprived of the use of his right hand, be placed on the list of pensioners.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for making certain allowances to the officers of the present General Assembly; also, to the bill "to amend the act, for appropriating the public revenue," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and to the bill "for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and to locate warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



Whereas, the Legislature of Virginia are fully convinced of the advantages that would result to the United States, by having some fixed place of residence for Congress:

*Resolved, therefore, unanimously,* That if the honorable the Congress should esteem the city of Williamsburg in this State, to be a fit place for their session, this Assembly will present them, on their removal thereto, and during their continuance therein, with the palace, the capitol, and all the public buildings, and three hundred acres of land adjoining the said city, together with a sum of money, not exceeding one hundred thousand pounds this State's currency, to be paid at five annual installments, and to be expended in erecting thirteen hotels for the use of the delegates in Congress.

This Assembly will also cede to Congress, during their residence therein, a district of territory contiguous to the said city, not exceeding five miles square, with such exempt jurisdiction within the said limits as the inhabitants residing therein shall consent to yield to Congress; to obtain which, the Governor, with advice of Council, is directed to make application to the said citizens, and when obtained, to notify to the delegates of this State in Congress such assent.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That if the honorable the Congress should think it more convenient to hold their session at any place on the river Potomac, within this Commonwealth, this Assembly will, on the above terms, cede the like district of territory at the place Congress shall so choose, and will also appropriate a sum, not exceeding one hundred thousand pounds, to be paid in five annual installments, for the purpose of erecting the said hotels, and will, moreover, purchase one hundred acres of land for the purpose of erecting such public buildings as Congress may direct.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That if the Legislature of Maryland, are willing to join in a cession of territory for the above purpose with this State, (the said territory to lie on the river Potomac) that this Assembly will cede to the honorable the Congress, the like district of territory, opposite to that ceded by the State of Maryland, freely leaving it with Congress to fix their residence on either side of the said river, as they may see proper; but that if Congress shall reside on the north side of the said river, that then this Assembly will contribute forty thousand pounds for the aforesaid purposes, in full confidence that the State of Maryland will supply the deficiency. *Provided, always,* that should Congress thereafter remove from the city of Williamsburg, or from the lands before mentioned, that in such case, the lands so ceded, with the buildings, shall revert to the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue;'" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by a resolution of the present session of Assembly, the sum of 13,221 silver dollars were allowed Thomas Bentley, for advances by him made for the Illinois service, and the auditors were directed to grant warrants for the same, with an interest of five per centum thereon for two years, and it is necessary he should receive some immediate relief;

*Resolved, therefore,* That the treasurer do pay to the said Thomas Bentley, out of any money in his hands, the sum of 300 dollars; and that the said Thomas Bentley, for the balance of his claim, be put on the military fund.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and to locate warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Wallace do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also, they have agreed to the bills "to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State for the public use;" and, "to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" also, to the resolutions for paying certain sums of money to Francis Bossoron, Philip Legrass, Francis Carbonneaw, and Charles Gratiot; for putting Smith Stevens, Thomas Hightower and Dennis M'Carty, upon the list of pensioners; directing the quarter-master general to remove the military stores near the public buildings; for allowing a sum of money to Lieutenant Colonel Lee for two horses purchased for his legion; directing the treasurer to pay a warrant granted Matthew Pate, out of any money in his hands; for paying a sum of money to Thomas Bentley, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and for making a certain allowance to the commissioners for equalizing the land tax, with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate to the resolution respecting Thomas Bentley; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution respecting the commissioners of the land-tax; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Southall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:



Whereas, the act passed at the last session of Assembly, respecting the hospital for lunatics in the city of Williamsburg, referred to the appropriation act for the necessary supplies of money to refit the said hospital, and the same was left unprovided for in the said appropriation act;

*Resolved, therefore,* That the treasurer be directed to advance to the order of the court of directors for the said hospital, any sum of money not exceeding 300*l.* out of the fund heretofore appropriated for the eastern defence.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Southall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the Loan Office certificates, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;’ and that Mr. Southall do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for paying a sum of money to the directors of the lunatic hospital, with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment, and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Southall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;’ and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

A bill, “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;’ was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages;’ was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages.’”

*Ordered,* That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jameson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed unanimously to the resolutions offering to the Congress of the United States a district of territory within this State for their fixed residence. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three months wages.’” And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Taylor:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

“An act, to repeal so much of any act or acts of Assembly as subject the people called Quakers and Menonists to penalties or disabilities for non-juring.”

“An act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, to continue and amend an act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine.’”

“An act, for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees.”

“An act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, declaring tenants of lands or slaves in tail, to hold the same in fee simple.’”

“An act, to enable the General Court to settle and adjust costs.”

“An act, for the relief of sheriffs.”

“An act, to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases.”

“An act, authorising the justices of the county of Monongalia to appoint a place for holding courts for the said county, and for other purposes.”

“An act, directing the enlistment of guards for the public prison and stores.”

“An act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs.’”

“An act, giving certain powers to the trustees of the town of Portsmouth.”

“An act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act.”

"An act, to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers, for their arrears of pay and depreciation."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to vest certain escheated lands in the county of Kentucky, in trustees, for a public school.'"

"An act, for the payment of wages to the members of the present General Assembly."

"An act, to amend an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.'"

"An act, for dissolving the vestry of the Parish of Lynnhaven, in the county of Princess Anne."

"An act, for establishing a town in the county of Princess Anne."

"An act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental line, three month's wages."

"An act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

"An act, for incorporating the trustees of Hampden Sydney."

"An act, to amend the act, 'for appropriating the public revenue.'"

"An act, to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to procure ten acres of land in this State, for the public use."

"An act, to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees.'"

"An act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and to locate warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes."

"An act, to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes."

"An act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.'"

"An act, directing the auditors to issue warrants in certain cases."

"An act, to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands, late the property of John Connolly."

"An act, to authorise and confirm marriages in certain cases."

"An act, to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, for paying the soldiers late from the southern army, belonging to the Virginia continental army, three month's wages.'"

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate propose, if it is agreeable to this House, to adjourn until the third Monday in October next, in lieu of the day first proposed by this House. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the order respecting the adjournment of this House, agreed to on Saturday last, be rescinded: and that when this House adjourns on this day, it will adjourn to the third Monday in October next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

And then the House adjourned to the third Monday in October next.





# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND,

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE TWENTIETH DAY OF OCTOBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR  
LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE.*

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RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

.....  
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# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*BEGUN* and held at the public buildings in the City of Richmond, on Monday, the twentieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three; being the second session of the present General Assembly.

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MONDAY, October 20, 1783.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, October 21, 1783.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

---

WEDNESDAY, October 22, 1783.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

---

THURSDAY, October 23, 1783.

The House met according to their adjournment.  
*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.



*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; Samuel Sherwin, one of the members for the county of Amelia; Robert Clarke and Thomas Lumpkin, members for the county of Bedford; Adam Stephen and Moses Hunter, members for the county of Berkeley; John Breckenridge, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Andrew Meade, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; John Cabell and Dickinson Barksdale, members for the county of Buckingham; Robert Adams, jun. and John Ward, members for the county of Campbell; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Thomas Collier, one of the members for the county of Charlotte; Robert Goode and Jesse Cogbill, members for the county of Chesterfield; Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; Freuch Strother and James Pendleton, members for the county of Culpeper; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Spencer Roane, one of the members for the county of Essex; Alexander Henderson and Charles Broadwater, members for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; David Ross and John Powell, members for the county of Fluvanna; Alexander White and Charles Mynn Thruston, members for the county of Frederick; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; John Page and Thomas Smith, members for the county of Gloucester; Thomas Mann Randolph and Thomas Underwood, members for the county of Goochland; Andrew Donnelly and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; James Wall and James Mason, members for the county of Greenville; James M-Craw, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry, one of the members for county of Henry; William Nelson, one of the members for the county of James City; John Seabrook Wells and Josiah Parker, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Coleman, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; John Carter, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Henry Stokes and Edward Ragsdale, members for the county of Lunenburg; John Edwards, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Thomas Pettus and Samuel Goode, members for the county of Mecklenburg; Benjamin Willson and Francis Worman, members for the county of Monongalia; John Preston and James Campbell, members for the county of Montgomery; Kinchen Godwin and John Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; Daniel Sanford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; John Thornton, one of the members for the county of Northumberland; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, members for the county of Princess Anne; James Gordon and John Faunteroy, members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Gabriel Jones and John Hopkins, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Mann Page, one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania; Charles Carter and Thomson Mason, members for the county of Stafford; Sterling Harwell, one of the members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges and Wilson Miles Cary, members for the county of Warwick; Arthur Campbell and James Montgomery, members for the county of Washington; Thomas Nelson, jun. one of the members for the county of York; Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg; and Thomas Newton, jun. member for the borough of Norfolk.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, October 24, 1783.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Goode, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; George Clendinnen, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Thomas Mann Randolph, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Thomas Pettus, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Henry Stokes, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; and John Faunteroy, one of the members for the county of Richmond; severally attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Goode, George Clendinnen, Thomas Mann Randolph, Thomas Pettus, Henry Stokes, and John Faunteroy be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Taylor be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, October 25, 1783.

The House being informed that John Powell, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Thomas Smith, one of the members for the county of Gloucester; French Strother and James Pendleton, members for the county of Culpeper; John Edwards, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Benjamin Wilson, one of the members for the county of Monongalia; and John Thornton, one of the members for the county of Northumberland; severally attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said John Powell, Thomas Underwood, Thomas Smith, French Strother, James Pendleton, John Edwards, Benjamin Wilson and John Thornton, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Spencer Roane, one of the members for the county of Essex, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Spencer Roane be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business.

The House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, October 27, 1783.

The House being informed that James Wall, one of the members for the county of Greenville; and James Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said James Wall and James Preston, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that John Ward, one of the members for the county of Campbell; and Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said John Ward and Samuel Goode, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, October 28, 1783.

The House being informed that Edward Ragsdale, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; and Wilson Miles Cary, one of the members for the county of Warwick; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Edward Ragsdale and Wilson Miles Cary, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Jesse Cogbill, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Jesse Cogbill be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately,

The House being accordingly called over, some were excused on account of sickness, necessary absence in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; Robert Clarke and Thomas Lumpkin, members for the county of Bedford; Adam Stephen and Moses Hunter, members for the county of Berkeley; Andrew Meade, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; John Cabell and Dickinson Barksdale, members for the county of Buckingham; Robert Adams, jun. one of the members for the county of Campbell; Thomas Collier, one of the members for the county of Charlotte; Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Alexander Henderson and Charles Broadwater, members for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; Alexander White and Charles Mynn Thruston, members for the county of Frederick; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; James Mason, one of the members for the county of Greenville; James M'Craw, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; John Scasbrook Wells and Josiah Parker, members for the county of Isle of Wight; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; John Carter, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; Francis Worman one of the members for the county of Monongalia; James Campbell, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; Kinchen Godwin and John Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; Daniel

Sanford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, members for the county of Princess Anne; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Gabriel Jones and John Hopkins, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Mann Page, one of the members for the county of Spotsylvania; Charles Carter, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Sterling Harwell, one of the members for the county of Sussex; Arthur Campbell and James Montgomery, members for the county of Washington; and Thomas Newton, jun. a member for the borough of Norfolk.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms, attending this House, be authorised and empowered to send special messengers to take into custody, wherever to be found, the bodies of the foregoing members, and Mr. Speaker is desired to issue his warrant accordingly.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, October 29, 1783.

The House met according to their adjournment;

But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### THURSDAY, October 30, 1783.

The House being informed that Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Carter Henry Harrison be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday fortnight.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, October 31, 1783.

The House being informed that Thomas Lumpkin, one of the members for the county of Bedford; and James Mason, one of the members for the county of Greenville; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Lumpkin and James Mason, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Tuesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Curtis be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

### MONDAY, November 3, 1783.

The House met according to their adjournment;

But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



TUESDAY, November 4, 1783.

The House being informed that Mann Page, one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania; John Bowdoin, one of the members for the county of Northampton; Charles Carter, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Andrew Meade, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; Moses Hunter, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; John Hopkins, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; and William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Mann Page, John Bowdoin, Charles Carter, Andrew Meade, Robert Lawson, Moses Hunter, John Hopkins and William Ronald, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Robert Clarke, one of the members for the county of Bedford; Thomas Collier, one of the members for the county of Charlotte; and John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Tuesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Clarke, Thomas Collier and John Pollard, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed of the necessary absence of John Tyler, Esq. the present Speaker, on account of the indisposition of his family, Mann Page, Esq. one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania, reminded the House of the necessity of proceeding to the choice of a Speaker, during such necessary absence of the said John Tyler, Esq., and recommended Charles Carter, Esq. one of the members for the county of Stafford, as a person in every respect qualified to discharge the duties of that office; he was seconded by Mr. Richard Lee, Esq. one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; and thereupon the said Charles Carter, Esq. standing in his place, made his apology to the House for declining the honor intended him by the said appointment; and recommended to the same office, George Carrington, Esq. one of the members for the county of Cumberland; he was seconded by Wilson Miles Cary, Esq. one of the members for the county of Warwick; whereupon the said George Carrington, Esq. standing in his place, excused himself to the House for declining the said appointment, on account of inability.

Drury Ragsdale, Esq. one of the members for the county of King William, then recommended Mann Page, Esq. one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania, as a person of ability and fitness, to discharge the duties of that office; he was seconded by John Edmundson, Esq. one of the members for the county of Essex; whereupon, the said Mann Page, Esq. was elected Speaker of this House, during the necessary absence of John Tyler, Esq. without opposition, and conducted to the chair, from whence he made his acknowledgments to the House for the honor conferred on him, and recommended their attention to the preservation of order, and despatch of public business.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Benjamin Blagrove, be appointed chaplain to this House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes, be appointed serjeant at arms to this House.

*Ordered*, That John Creagh, William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks and John Hicks, be appointed door-keepers to this House, and that they give their attendance accordingly.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to take into their consideration the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, stating sundry matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to several letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; and the said letter was read.

*Ordered*, That the said letter with its enclosures, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Carrington, Norvell, Charles Carter, William Watkins, Wray, Garland Anderson, William Moore, and Barksdale; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be from time to time referred to them, and report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers, and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Cary, Thomson Mason, Charles Carter, Lawson, Prentis, Tazewell, Richard Lee, Carter Henry Harrison, Stuart, Benjamin Harrison, and Mayo; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place, all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and to compare the same with the forms prescribed by law, and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question, touching returns, elections and privileges; and to report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon, to the House, from time to time; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers, and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections to be heard at the bar of this House, or before the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do by themselves or their agents, within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the

committee to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members, giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters objected to; and that the sitting members do by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the lists on their parts to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Charles Carter, Prentis, Edmundson, Strother, Southall, Norvell, Stokes, Mayo, Rogers, Thomas Towles, Thomson Mason, Carrington, Lawson, Taylor of Caroline, Taylor of Southampton, Carter Henry Harrison, Edward Carter, William Watkins, Underwood, Wilkinson, Garland Anderson, William Moore, Scott, Cocke, Samuel Goode, Everard Meade, Sherwin, Barksdale, Adams, Robert Goode, Cogbill, Wray, Booker, Pendleton, Powell, Roane, Smith, Randolph, Anderson, Collier, Coles, Ragsdale, Henry Towles, Johnston, Ball, Edward Ragsdale, Kearnes, John Watkins, Lankford, Bibb, Bullitt, Stephens Thomson Mason, Fauntleroy, Innes, Crittenden, Thornton, Todd, Benjamin Harrison, Nicholas Cabell, Campbell and Breckenridge; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all propositions and grievances, that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon to the House; and all such propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of the House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Thomson Mason, Prentis, Lawson, Tazewell, Taylor of Caroline, Cogbill, Stuart, Roane, Bullitt, Stephens Thomson Mason, Strother, Benjamin Harrison, William Nelson, Heath and Todd; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters relating to Courts of Justice, and such other matters as shall, from time to time, be referred to them, and report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and also, examine what laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session, or are near expiring, and report the same to the House, with their opinions which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Claims be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, William Watkins, Underwood, Carrington, William Anderson, John Watkins, William Moore, Garland Anderson, Taylor of Southampton, Wray, Gilchrist, Booker, Norvell, Thomas Smith, Lankford, and Drury Ragsdale; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all public claims referred from the last to this session of Assembly, and all matters that shall be, from time to time, to them referred, and to report their proceedings with their opinions thereupon to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Commerce be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. William Anderson, Underwood, Gilchrist, Garland Anderson, Kearnes, Wray, Heath, and Edward Carter; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all such matters and things relative to the trade, manufactures and commerce of the Commonwealth, as shall from time to time, be referred to them, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon; and also, occasionally, such improvements as in their judgment may be made in the commerce and manufactures of the State, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances, seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections, and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to make a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmund Pendleton, be appointed clerk to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Adam Craig, clerk to the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice and Claims; and Mr. Charles Hay, clerk to the committee of Commerce.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, November 5, 1783.

A petition on behalf of Aberdeen, a negro man slave, late the property of John Goodrich, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that at the commencement of the war when his master joined the British, he went to work at the lead mines, and has continued to labor there ever since, in the public service; and praying that he may be now liberated from slavery.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amelia, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are greatly aggrieved by the operation of an act of the last session of Assembly, "prohibiting the reception of commutables in discharge of their taxes;" and are unable from the scarcity of specie, to pay the same; and praying relief.



Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect; and also praying that no commutation of pay may be given to the officers and soldiers of the army; and that delinquent counties may be called to account for past deficiencies of men and money.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and remonstrance, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and that Messrs. Todd, Edmundson, and Wilson Miles Cary, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of David Hopkins, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has served in the continental line of this State in the rank of Captain and Major, from the year 1775 to the present time; and praying to be allowed the usual bounty of lands.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Mosby, deputy sheriff to John Harris, sheriff of Powhatan county; setting forth, that judgment is gone against his principal, for a deficiency in his collection of the taxes, to discharge which he tendered to the treasurer sundry certificates and warrants, received by him in the collection, which were refused because not offered by a day appointed by a late law, of which the petitioner was ignorant, whereby his principal and himself will be subjected to great loss and injury; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Walter Crockett; setting forth, that he was sheriff and collector of taxes in the county of Montgomery, for the year 1782, and after repeated distress and sale of property, has not been able to complete his collection; that a judgment is given against him for a deficiency of the collection, with interest, costs, and damages, by which he will be greatly injured; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Lawson; setting forth, that he was sheriff of the county of Lancaster, in the years 1781 and 1782, and upon the settlement of his collections with the auditors, and at the treasury, mistakes were made to his disadvantage, by which he was injured upwards of 30*l*.; for which judgment and execution hath been rendered against him, and he has been compelled to pay the money; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Henry Anderson; setting forth, that he was allowed by the court of Claims of Amelia county, 375*l*. for a stud horse impressed for continental service, which has been reduced by the auditors to 150*l*.; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Charles Gratiot; setting forth, that he has received warrants from the auditors to a considerable amount, in discharge of claims of himself and others, against the State, for which he cannot receive payment at the treasury; and praying that funds may be assigned to pay the same.

Also, a petition of Edward Stevens and Robert Lawson; setting forth, that during the late war, they each commanded a regiment in the continental line of this State, until the year 1779, and since that time, have served as brigadier generals in the militia; and praying to be allowed a reasonable bounty in lands.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Benjamin Ruffin, John Simmons and Arthur Foster, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they were commissioners of the land-tax in the county of Southampton, for the year 1782; and that the justices appointed to assess their lands, valued the same to three or four times as much per acre as the lands of the neighbors adjoining were valued to by the petitioners, by which they think themselves aggrieved; and praying relief.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of Benjamin Britt, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the last assessment of lands in Brunswick county, the land of the petitioner was valued at twelve shillings per acre, and that of his adjoining neighbors to six shillings, which he conceives to be unequal and oppressive; and praying relief.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal so much of an act, 'to suppress excessive gaming, as relates to horse racing;" and that Messrs. Drury Ragsdale, Everard Meade and Benjamin Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, General Lawson, Stuart, Carter Henry Harrison, Richard Lee, Wilson Miles Cary, Tazewell, Stephens Thomson Mason, Edward Carter, Maun Page, Benjamin Harrison, Ronald, Prentiss, and Thomas Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Dix have leave to be absent from the service of this House, till Monday se'nnight.



The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, November 6, 1783.

The House being informed that Francis Worman, one of the members for the county of Monongalia, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Francis Worman be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A petition of the pilots in the lower district of James river, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the fees of pilotage established by a late law, are inadequate; and that so much of the said act, which prohibits more than two lawful pilots from entering into partnership, is also injurious to them; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have acquired rights of settlement to the lands they now occupy, under the laws of their country, which have been since confirmed to them by the district commissioners; that by a decree of the Court of Appeals, their said lands are declared to be within the grants of certain companies, and the petitioners adjudged to pay compensation to the grantees, which decree they consider as highly oppressive; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Charles Bennet, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he received a wound in the naval service of this Commonwealth, which has deprived him of the use of his right arm, and renders him unable to procure a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the ministers and messengers of the several Baptist churches, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that several oppressive distinctions between dissenters and the Church of England, still exist in the vestry law and marriage act, in favor of the latter; and praying that all such distinctions may be done away, and religious freedom established.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are aggrieved by the operation of an act, "for equalizing the land tax," by which the lands in the said county are placed in the first class of valuation, contrary to the true and real state of its fertility; and praying relief.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several acts of Assembly, respecting the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, ought to be revised and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass to regulate the appointment of justices of the peace.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Tazewell, Cary, Taylor of Caroline, Prentiss, Gen. Lawson, and Kearnes, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the subsequent resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Carter Henry Harrison, William Nelson, Benjamin Harrison, Edmundson, Gilchrist, Norvell and Todd, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House being informed that William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Tuesday the 28th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said William Pickett, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, be discharged from reporting from the Journals of the last session, the several petitions and propositions then depending and undetermined; and that such petitions and propositions be delivered by the clerk of course, to the proper committees.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, November 7, 1783.

The House being informed that Dickinson Barksdale, one of the members for the county of Buckingham; and Thomas Newton, member for the borough of Norfolk, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Tuesday the 28th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Dickinson Barksdale and Thomas Newton, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Benjamin Harrison, and Isaac Coles, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

A petition of Col. Abraham Buford, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that his receipts for the expenditure of a sum of paper money for the equipment and support of sundry new levies, under his command, were lost at the battle of the Waxsaws; so that he cannot settle his account for the same with the auditors; and praying to be allowed to prove the same by his own oath.

Also, a petition of Richard Parker, administrator &c. of Col. Richard Parker, deceased; setting forth, that the said deceased, in his life time, expended about 10,000 paper dollars for the bounty of new recruits, the receipts for which were lost when he was slain in Charlestown; and praying that the petitioner may be allowed to prove the same by other testimony.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive it would be of great public utility to establish cross posts, and riders to the same; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Charlotte, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Todd presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Ragsdale presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal so much of the several acts of Assembly, as concerns horse racing;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had under their consideration the state of the Commonwealth, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the laws of revenue ought to be amended; and that commutables ought to be received in payment of taxes for the present year.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That tobacco, hemp, flour and deer skins ought to be received in commutation of the taxes for the present year, and at the following prices, to wit: tobacco at per hundred, hemp at per hundred; flour, at and deer skins at

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, General Lawson, Taylor of Caroline, Ronald, Edmundson, Edward Carter, Strother, Wall and Todd, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Todd, Thomas Towles, Gilchrist, Thomas Smith, Underwood and Booker, be added to the committee for Religion; Messrs. Everard Meade, Robert Goode, Hunter, and Garland Anderson, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and Mr. Booker, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for appointing naval officers and ascertaining their fees."

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, November 8, 1783.

The House being informed that John Carter, one of the members for the county of Loudoun, attended in custody the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Carter, be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to repeal so much of the several acts of Assembly, as concerns horse racing;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Drury Ragsdale, Everard Meade and Benjamin Harrison.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal an act, 'to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and that Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Roane, Ronald, and Taylor of Caroline, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal so much of the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, 'to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments, until December 1783,' as declares that the same shall only be in force till the first of December 1783;

It passed in the negative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday next; Mr. Johnson of Louisa, until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Heath, until this day fortnight.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Bowdoin, Wilson Miles Cary, Joseph Jones, Preston, Mann Page, and Clendinnen, be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; Mr. John Carter, to the committee of Claims; Mr. Joseph Jones, to the committee for Courts of Justice; Mr. Bowdoin, to the committees for Religion, and of Privileges and Elections; and Mr. Stuart, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the laws of revenue."

A memorial of sundry officers of the Pennsylvania line, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being entitled to lands under the king of Great Britain's proclamation in the year 1763, for military services in the preceding war, they obtained a warrant to survey the same, and had proceeded therein until interrupted by a subsequent proclamation and the war between Great Britain and America; which causes have since prevented them from completing the same, and the said lands are now occupied by other settlers; and praying that they may be now authorised to proceed in surveying and locating the said grant.

Also, a memorial of sundry officers of the Delaware line, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said memorials be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the allowance made them as commissioners of Claims, is inadequate to their trouble and expenses, they having been obliged to employ more clerks than were at first engaged, in order to complete the business in time; and praying that the said allowance may be enlarged.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Mann Page, Strother, William Moore, Booker, Gilchrist, Underwood and Southall; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Thomas Bowyer, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he incurred great expense and trouble in superintending the recruiting business in the districts of Augusta, Rockbridge, Botetourt and Greenbrier, for which he has received no compensation; and praying to be allowed for the same, and also relieved from a judgment rendered against him for the balance of his recruiting account.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive it would greatly tend to promote religion and the propagation of the gospel, if a general and equal contribution for the support of the clergy were established; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.



MONDAY, November 10, 1783.

The House being informed that Josiah Parker, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; and General Nelson one of the members for the county of York; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Tuesday the 28th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Josiah Parker and General Nelson, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Thomas Williamson and John Spears, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they were deputy sheriffs and collectors of the tax in the county of Henrico, for the year 1782, and having completed their collection was ready to pay into the treasury the money and commutables by them received; but not being admitted to make partial payments, did not settle their collection before the time appointed by a late law; that a judgment is gone against them for the amount of their said collection, with interest and damages, by which they are greatly aggrieved; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Rickman, widow and executrix of William Rickman, deceased; setting forth, that her deceased husband served as director and chief physician of the continental hospital in Virginia, from May 1776, until October 1780, when he resigned; that since his death she has applied to obtain the bounty of land and depreciation of pay to which he was entitled, but that the auditors have refused to settle the same; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Croghan; setting forth, that in the year 1776, he purchased of Col. George Croghan, for a valuable consideration, a quantity of lands on the river Ohio, to which the said George Croghan had a legal title; that since that period he hath been absent in the army of the United States, which prevented him from settling the same, and gave opportunity to other persons to settle thereon and obtain titles for the same; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, presented, according to order, a bill "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof;" and that Messrs. Mann Page, Ronald, Thomas Towles, and Newton, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to explain and declare the privilege of members of the General Assembly;" and that Messrs. Southall, Booker, William Nelson, Robert Goode, Mann Page and Charles Carter, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to alter the court day of the county of Pittsylvania;" and that Messrs. Lankford, General Lawson, and Bibb, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters;" and that Messrs. Edwards, Southall, Underwood, Garland Anderson, Clendinnen and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Francis Bossoron, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that his claim, for necessities furnished in the Illinois country for the public use, was settled by the last Assembly; but that no interest was allowed thereupon, and no fund assigned, out of which to pay the same; and praying farther relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Common Council of the borough of Norfolk, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that doubts have arisen upon the construction of a late act, "for laying off the streets of the said borough;" and praying that the said act may be explained and amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all slaves, who have by appointment of their owners served in any regiment or corps, raised in this State as substitutes for any free person, ought to be emancipated; and that the attorney general ought to prosecute for the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the foregoing resolution; and that Messrs. Charles Carter, Prentis, Ronald, Smith, Jones and Edmundson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, November 11, 1783.

The House being informed that James Montgomery, one of the members for the county of Washington; Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; and John Powell, one of the members for the county of Flammanna; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said James Montgomery, Patrick Henry and John Powell, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A bill, "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Richard Parker, administrator of Colonel Richard Parker, deceased, praying that the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, which was stopped by the auditors of public accounts out of the pay of the said Colonel Parker, for so much advanced him for the recruiting service, may be credited the account of the said Parker, and certificates granted the petitioner for the same, is reasonable; it appearing to the committee, that the said sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, was disbursed by the said Col. Parker for the purposes he received it.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Charlotte and Prince Edward, praying that the county courts may be vested with a power to levy annually, a sum not exceeding fifteen or twenty pounds, for the purpose of procuring a rider to convey the public despatches, letters and papers (franked) from their next adjacent county courthouse; is reasonable.

The 1st resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The subsequent resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Daniel Du-Val to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Daniel Du-Val was appointed an ensign in the continental army in the beginning of the year 1776, in which capacity he acted until 1778, when he was appointed aid-de-camp to Major General the Baron de Steuben; that in the year 1779, he was appointed by Congress to the command of a company of sappers and miners, in which capacity he acted till the year 1781, when being in Virginia at the time of the invasion by Lord Cornwallis, he was appointed first a major and then a lieutenant-colonel of the militia, in which respective ranks he acted, until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Daniel Du-Val, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a captain of the Virginia line on continental establishment; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Edward Stevens and Robert Lawson, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Edward Stevens was in actual service as lieutenant colonel of a minute battalion, from September 1775, to May 1776; that in the fall of the year 1776, he was appointed a colonel in the continental army, and was in the field the whole of the year 1777, and part of 1778; that in May 1780, he was appointed to the command of a brigade of militia ordered for the relief of South Carolina, in which service he acted until the month of April 1781, and in June following he took command of a brigade of militia, and continued in service until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York.

It appears to your committee, that the said Robert Lawson was in the winter 1775, appointed a major in the 4th Virginia regiment in the continental service, in which capacity he acted until February 1777, when he was appointed colonel to the said regiment, and continued in the service until about the 25th of December following, when he resigned; that in 1778 the said Lawson went with Gen. Nelson to Philadelphia, as second in command in a corps of horse, and was in service about three months; that in the invasion of this State by the enemy, in the year 1779, the said Lawson was appointed to the command of the militia on the south side of James river, and continued on that



command until the enemy left the State; that in September 1780, the said Lawson was appointed to the command of a volunteer corps, and continued in service until the same was disbanded by the General Assembly, in December following; and that in February 1781, the said Lawson was appointed to the command of a brigade of militia on the south side of James river, and continued in service from that time in Carolina and Virginia, until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Edward Stevens and Robert Lawson, praying that a bounty of lands may be granted them; is reasonable.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved, That the same bounty of land ought to be allowed to Brigadier General Edward Stevens, and Brigadier General Robert Lawson, as is allowed to officers of the same rank in the continental army.*

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

*Ordered, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances be discharged from proceeding on the petition of Charles Gratiot, to them referred; and that the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.*

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "to explain and declare the privilege of members of the General Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time; and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.

Ayes 20,

Noes 61.

*Resolved, That the bill be rejected.*

On a motion made by Mr. Wilson Miles Cary, and seconded by Mr. Southall;

*Ordered, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.*

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, John Taylor of Caroline, Robert Goode, James Pendleton, George Booker, George Clendinnen, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, William Nelson, jun. Thomas Coleman, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, John Watkins, jun. John Kearnes, William Moore, John Scott, John Rogers, Wilson Miles Cary and Henry Tazewell.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Edward Carter, Nicholas Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, John Cunningham, Moses Hunter, John Breckenridge, Archibald Stuart, Andrew Meade, Thomas Claiborne, Dickinson Barksdale, John Ward, Robert Gilchrist, Thomas Collier, George Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, George Wray, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, William Watkins, William Pickett, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, James Wall, James Mason, Bartlett Anderson, Garland Anderson, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innes, William Norrell, Josiah Parker, Joseph Jones, Drury Ragsdale, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. John Carter, Henry Stokes, Edward Ragsdale, John Edwards, Thomas Pettus, Maurice Smith, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, James Preston, John Bowdoin, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, William Ronald, Robert Lawson, Richard Bibb, Alexander Scott Bullitt, John Fannleroy, Abraham Bird, Mann Page, Thomas Towles, Charles Carter, Thomson Mason, Richard Lee, James Montgomery, Thomas Nelson, jun. and Joseph Prentiss.

On a motion made,

*Ordered, That the House be called over immediately.*

The House being accordingly called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; Everard Meade, one of the members for the county of Amelia; Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; Jesse Cogbill, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; Alexander Henderson and Charles Broadwater, members for the county of Fairfax; John Barker, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; Alexander White and Charles Mynn Thruston, members for the county of Frederick; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; Andrew Donelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; John Scasbrook Wells, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; James Campbell, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; Kinchen Godwin and John Cowper, members for the county of Nansemond; Daniel Sanford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; Isaac Avery, one of the members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; Edmund Ruffin, jun. one of the members for the county of Prince George; John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, members for the county of Princess Anne; Arthur Lee, one of the members for the county of Prince William; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Thomson Mason, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Sterling Harwell, one of the members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington; and Thomas Newton, a member for the borough of Norfolk.*



*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and that Messrs. Mann Page, Tazewell, and William Nelson, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, November 12, 1763.

The House being informed that Thomas Newton, member for the borough of Norfolk; and John Cowper, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Newton and John Cowper, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That General Nelson, be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, Propositions and Grievances and Claims; and Mr. William Moore, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters."

Mr. Charles Carter reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Colonel Abraham Buford to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Abraham Buford, praying that he may be allowed to prove his account against the public, for monies expended in collecting the levies raised by this State, by his own oath; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Charles Bennett, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Charles Bennett, praying relief in consideration of a wound which he received in his right arm, whilst in the naval service of this Commonwealth, and which has rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner who was employed as a sail-maker, ought to be allowed for his present relief, half pay from the 1st day of April 1781 to the 10th instant; and also, that he ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Drury Ragsdale reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to repeal so much of the act, 'to suppress excessive gaming, as concerns horse racing,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read; and on the question severally put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

And then the question being put, that the said bill be engrossed and read the third time,  
It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said bill be rejected.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the treasurer do lay his accounts before the House.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the acts, for establishing a High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins a payment of certain taxes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Charles Carter presented, according to order, a bill "directing the emancipation of certain slaves who have served as soldiers in this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Josiah Parker, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he served in the Virginia line of the continental army in the respective ranks of major, lieutenant-colonel and colonel, from October 1775 until August 1778, when he resigned, but has since been in frequent service in the militia with the rank of colonel; and praying to be allowed the same bounty in land as is by law given to a full colonel.

Also, a petition of Alexander Spotswood, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of William Cherry; setting forth, that he has served in the Virginia line of the continental army, in the respective ranks of lieutenant and captain, upwards of six years, with a short intermission occasioned by his becoming a supernumerary, by which he is excluded from the bounty of lands given by law; and praying to be allowed the same bounty that is granted to captains.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A bill, "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the House, to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

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### THURSDAY, November 13, 1783.

The House being informed that Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington; and Alexander White and Charles Mynn Thruston, members for the county of Frederick; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Arthur Campbell, Alexander White and Charles Mynn Thruston, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that James Campbell, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; and Alexander Henderson, one of the members for the county of Fairfax; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Tuesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said James Campbell and Alexander Henderson, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

A bill, "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served as soldiers in this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Saturday next.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are aggrieved by the operation of "an act, for collecting certain arrears of salary," to the amount of seven hundred pounds and upwards, due to the late incumbent of their parish, not having specie to pay the same, in addition to their other public dues; and praying that the said collection may be suspended, and the glebe of the said parish disposed of in discharge of the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the treasurer be directed to lay before the House, a state of the payments from the several counties for the tax due under the revenue law for the year 1782, shewing the articles in which the same has been paid; also, a state of the loss sustained by the payments of commutable articles since the disposal of them has been placed in his hands.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the auditors be directed to lay before the House an account of the sales of commutable articles, received in payment of the taxes due under the revenue law for 1782, previous to the time when the disposal of these articles were placed in the hands of the treasurer.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing several letters from the delegates of this State in Congress and other papers on the subject thereof, which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and General Nelson reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the duties and impost upon goods, wares, and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, as recommended by Congress in their act of the 18th of April last, ought

to be established under the restrictions, and with the limitation therein contained; and that the Governor, with advice of Council, ought to be invested with a power to appoint necessary officers for the due collection of the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the foregoing resolution; and that Messrs. General Nelson, Joseph Jones, Henry, Ronald, Prentis, William Nelson, Tazewell, Alexander White, and Henderson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes," being read:

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, November 14, 1783.

An account of the expenses of erecting a flag, agreeable to a resolution of the last session of Assembly, was presented to the House, and read;

*Ordered*, That the said account be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Thomas Bentley, respecting his claim against the public; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Claims.

A petition of Daniel Clarke, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that his claim against the State, is founded on a bill drawn by Oliver Pollock, in his favor, and for which he paid full value in solid coin, dollar for dollar; that this claim has been regularly accepted and allowed by a former Assembly, and payment ordered him; but that the last Assembly directed the said payment to be stopped, for a reason unknown to the petitioner; that he has been absent from his own home and family near three years, and at great expense, soliciting payment of this claim, and apprehends total ruin in case of farther delay; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Sir John Peyton, sheriff of the county of Gloucester, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that after every possible exertion of himself and deputies, a considerable part of his collection for the year 1782, remains unpaid, to satisfy which, distresses and sale of property has been repeatedly made to no effect; that judgment is rendered against him for the said balance, with damages, costs and interest, by which he will be greatly aggrieved; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A written state of doubts, respecting the settlement of certain public claims, suggested by the commissioners appointed to adjust the claims for property impressed or taken for public use; was presented to the House, read, and ordered to be referred to the committee to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Jones and Mayo Carrington.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson be added to the said committee.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, November 15, 1783.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.



*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; Thomas Lumpkin, one of the members for the county of Bedford; Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; Robert Adams, jun. one of the members for the county of Campbell; Robert Goode and Jesse Cogbill, members for the county of Chesterfield; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; John Barker, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; John Scasbrook Wells, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; Kinchen Godwin, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; John Watkins and William Dandridge, members for the county of New Kent; Daniel Sanford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; Isaac Avery, one of the members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; Edmund Ruffin, jun. one of the members for the county of Prince George; John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, members for the county of Princess Anne; Arthur Lee, one of the members for the county of Prince William; James Gordon and John Fauntleroy, members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; and Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland.

The House being informed that Thomas Lumpkin, one of the members for the county of Bedford; and John Fauntleroy, one of the members for the county of Richmond; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Lumpkin and John Fauntleroy, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A memorial of the continental receiver of taxes in this State, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in consequence of instructions from the financier general, he received from the treasurer of this State, a considerable payment of tobacco, in part of the State's quota of supply to Congress for the use of the United States; that the treasurer having been instructed not to dispose of the same, except at the price of forty shillings per hundred, which could not be then obtained, it was agreed between the said treasurer and the financier, that indifferent persons should fix the price of the said tobacco at the different inspections, at which the said financier should receive the same; that the greater part of the said tobacco has been accordingly so received and disposed of by the memorialist, and the remainder is now on hand undisposed of for want of purchasers; and praying that the said proceedings may be confirmed in such manner, that the United States may sustain no loss thereby;

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that they resume the consideration of so much of the memorial of the officers of the continental and State lines, which was depending and undetermined at the last session of Assembly, as respects the laying off the lands heretofore assigned as bounties to the army; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerks table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the ministers and messengers of the several Baptist churches, setting forth, that from the operation of the acts, concerning vestries and marriages, they conceive themselves much aggrieved and oppressed, and praying that the said acts may be revised and amended; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several laws, concerning vestries, ought to be amended; and that overseers of the poor, ought to be appointed to each parish within this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several laws respecting marriages, ought to be amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an act may pass for establishing a general and equal contribution for the support of the clergy; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

The 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The last resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions; and that the committee for Religion do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour, or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Saturday next; and Gen. Lawson, until Thursday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, November 17, 1783.

The House being informed that Robert Goode, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; and John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Goode and John Taylor, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the serjeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; Jesse Cogbill, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; John Barker, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Turner Southall, one of the members for the county of Henrico; John Scasbrook Wells, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Johnson, jun. one of the members for the county of Louisa; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; John Watkins, one of the members for the county of New Kent; Daniel Sanford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd, and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Mayo, jun. one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Edmund Ruffin, jun. and Benjamin Harrison, jun. members for the county of Prince George; John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, members for the county of Princess Anne; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; and Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Monsieur Cabarras, vice consul of France in this Commonwealth, respecting American scamen shipped on board vessels belonging to subjects of His Most Christian Majesty; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Commerce.

A petition of Samuel Boush, Cornelius Calvert and Thomas Newton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that their losses in houses and other property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk, by order of Convention, were valued in specie; but the public not being in a situation to pay them, they obtained Loan Office certificates for the same, of date subsequent to the year 1777, whereby they will sustain a loss of more than one half; and praying that their certificates may be taken in, and new ones granted them upon a more equitable scale; and also, that provision may be made to pay the annual interest of the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "directing the manner in which certain public accounts shall be



stated and settled;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Gilchrist, Cowper, Henderson and Prentis, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Andrew Meade have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the Executive be desired to lay before the House, the Journal of their proceedings, from the month of October 1782, to the present time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 18, 1783.

The House being informed that Edmund Ruffin, one of the members for the county of Prince George; and Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Edmund Ruffin and Richard Lee, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Turner Southall, one of the members for the county of Henrico; and Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Turner Southall and Richard Cocke, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

A petition of Ralph Wormley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that his son John Wormley, went to Great Britain several years ago to receive his education, being intended for the mercantile line; that the late war commenced before that education was completed, and his said son came to New York at the age of sixteen years, and being destitute of other means of support, as well as too young to judge upon political questions, accepted a commission in the British army; that being now arrived at years of discretion he has intermarried with a lady of the State of South Carolina, and is desirous of becoming a citizen of his native country, but stands excluded by the present laws; and praying that the said John Wormley may be admitted to the rights of citizenship.

Also, a petition of Presley Thornton; setting forth, that he went to England for his education, several years before the commencement of the late war, and upon the commencement thereof, being destitute of supplies and the means of support, was constrained to accept a commission in the British service, with an express condition not to serve in America, and went to Gibraltar in the year 1778, being then only sixteen years of age; that he remained at Gibraltar without an opportunity of leaving the British service, until February last, when he received the first advice of an act of this State, permitting persons in his situation to return to the same within two years after they should come of age, and immediately obtained his discharge; but upon coming to America finds himself not within time, and consequently excluded the rights of citizenship; and praying that he may be admitted a citizen.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Frederick, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they had proceeded to make payments in hemp, in discharge of their public taxes; but find by the operation of an act of the last session, forbidding the reception of commutables, that the said payments are of no avail, whereby they are greatly aggrieved; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House,

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Croghan, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Croghan, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said William Croghan, ought to be authorised to locate six thousand four hundred and twenty acres of land within the territory, or tract of country set apart for the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, after their respective portions of land shall be laid off and secured to them.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Thomas Collier, John Daniel and James Bouldin, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



It appears to your committee, that the petitioners were appointed commissioners of the two per cent tax, to be collected in the county of Charlotte; that some tobacco notes were received by the collectors from the people of the said county, before a report prevailed that the warehouses on James and Appomattox rivers were burnt by the enemy; that as soon as the said report was confirmed, the collectors, in consequence of instructions from the said petitioners, did not receive any more tobacco notes in payment of the said tax; and that no fraud or collusion was practised by the collectors or commissioners of the said tax in receiving the said tobacco notes.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Thomas Collier, John Daniel and James Bouldin, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the tobacco notes collected in payment of the two per cent tax in the said county of Charlotte, ought to be received from the commissioners by the public.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Josiah Parker, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in October 1775, the said Josiah Parker was appointed a major of the 5th Virginia regiment on continental establishment, in which rank he acted until August 1776, when he was appointed a lieutenant colonel, and in April 1777, he received a full colonel's commission in the same regiment, and acted in that rank until August 1778, when he resigned.

It also appears to your committee, that since the resignation of the said Josiah Parker, he hath upon every invasion of this State by the enemy, been upon duty with the militia, in the rank of colonel, with the command of the whole militia on the south side of James river, after the invasion by General Philips, until the arrival of the Count de Grass.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Josiah Parker, praying that he may be allowed the bounty in lands by law given to a colonel in the continental line, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment in certain taxes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Pettus have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Saturday se'nnight.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That a writ issue for the election of a delegate to serve in the present General Assembly for the county of Surry, until the first Monday in May next, in the room of Mr. James Kee, who hath accepted the office of a commissioner of the tax.

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of an auditor of public accounts, in the room of Mr. John Boush, who hath resigned.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House being informed that William Curtis one of the members for the county of Middlesex; and Jesse Cogbill, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said William Curtis and Jesse Cogbill, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served in the army of this State;" "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, November 19, 1783.

A petition of Mills Wilkinson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1775, a negro man slave belonging to the petitioner, confined in Suffolk jail as a runaway, was sent by order of the committee of Safety to the lead mines, and has been continued there in the public service ever since that time, without any consideration to him for the valuation or hire of the said slave; and praying to be made compensation.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of George Rogers Clarke, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the course of his services in the western country, he expended and disbursed considerable sums of paper money on public account, and settled an account of the same in part with the former auditors; but upon the destruction of their papers, his receipts and vouchers for the same were lost; that since that time his subsequent accounts, and the receipts and vouchers for the same, have also been destroyed at the capture of Saint Vincennes by the enemy; and praying that he may be allowed to settle his said accounts, by the certificate of the former auditors and his own oath.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing bounties of land to Generals Stevens and Lawson, and to Daniel Du-Val; respecting the accounts of Col. Richard Parker, deceased; for allowing a sum of money to Charles Bennett; to ballot for an auditor of public accounts, in the room of John Boush; and for settling the accounts of Col. Abraham Buford, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A petition of Banks Dudley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he received a wound in the service of his country, which disables him from obtaining a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Kemp and Granville Smith; setting forth, that while they were assistant quarter-masters under Col. Porterfield, they made sundry contracts for the good of the service, and are now threatened with suits for the same; and that a suit is actually commenced against them in the General Court, for the rent of a house taken for the use of the department; and praying to be relieved against the same.

Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Gibson's warehouses, in the county of King George; setting forth, that the said warehouses have been broken open at different times, without the default of the petitioners, and sundry tobacco stolen thereout, which they are called upon to make good; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the rector and vestry of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the bounds of the glebe lands of the said parish are highly inconvenient to the parishioners, and would be rendered more convenient by a temporary line to be run agreeable to the boundary therein expressed; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Gerard Hooe, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he keeps the ferry from his land in the county of King George, across Potomac river to the opposite shore in the State of Maryland, and is greatly injured by the practice of the proprietor of the land in Maryland, in bargaining with travellers to pass up the shore past the petitioner's ferry, and makes a smoke, by which he sends his boat, and ferries them over, to the great injury of the petitioner; that the said abuse is not provided against by law; and praying that an act may pass to remedy the same.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive great advantages would result to the public, by establishing inspections of hemp at the heads of navigation; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of John Ragsdale; setting forth, that he was sheriff of Lunenburg county in the year 1782, and although distress was made upon the property of the people, was unable to complete his collection in time; and that part of his collection was made in civil list warrants and certificates, since the first day of August last, whereby judgment is gone against him, with damages and interest; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Haynes; setting forth, that he has lost or mislaid a certificate for three beeves, taken for public use, and cannot now get his claim for the same settled; and praying that provision may be made, in his, and like cases.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the laws of revenue, and declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder, for admitting payments of hemp in counties on the eastern side of the Blue Ridge of mountains, in certain cases.

And the said engrossed clause being severally read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder.

And then the question being put, that the said bill, with the ryder, do pass;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes 61,

Noes 23.

On a motion made by Mr. Mann Page, and seconded by Mr. Henderson;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.



The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, John Breckenridge, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, Dickinson Barksdale, Robert Gilchrist, John Taylor of Caroline, Thomas Collier, Robert Goode, Jesse Cogbill, George Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pendleton, William Watkins, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, John Powell, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innes, Josiah Parker, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, James Ball, John Carter, William Anderson, Henry Stokes, Edward Ragsdale, John Edwards, William Curtis, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, John Preston, Charles Campbell, John Thornton, William Moore, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, William Ronald, John Fauntleroy, John Hopkins, Abraham Bird, John Rogers, John Taylor of Southampton, Charles Carter, Richard Cocke, Richard Lee, Arthur Campbell and James Montgomery.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Nicholas Cabell, Moses Hunter, George Wray, George Booker, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, James Wall, James Mason, Isaac Coles, William Nelson, Samuel Goode, John Cowper, John Kearnes, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, Benjamin Harrison, Mam Page, Wilson Miles Cary, Thomas Nelson, jun. Joseph Prentis, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Newton.

*Ordered*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

General Nelson presented, according to order, a bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to lay certain duties for the use of the United States;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed that William Mayo, jun. one of the members for the county of Powhatan, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Mayo, jun. be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Claiborne and Bibb, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight; Mr. Drury Ragsdale, until Monday next; and Gen. Nelson, till Thursday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate elections, and to enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" and that Messrs. White, Prentis, Nicholas, Joseph Jones, Charles Carter, and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Elzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1780, entitled "an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire in the month of March next, ought to be further continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments until December 1783,'" which then expires, ought to be further continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth," which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire on the 1st day of December next, ought to be further continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth," which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire on the first day of December next, ought to be further continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire on the first day of December next, ought to be further continued.



*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the foregoing resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House two letters from the Governor, stating further matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of an auditor of public accounts, in the room of John Boush, who hath resigned; for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served in the army of this State;" "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 20, 1783.

A bill, "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A petition of Charles de Klamman, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he served near two years as a captain, in the service of this State, in the regular line and in the militia; and praying to be allowed a bounty in lands adequate to his services.

Also, a petition of Col. James Innes; setting forth, that he served in various ranks in the army during the late war near three years, and frequently in militia service; and praying to be allowed a reasonable bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Colonel William Nelson, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Colonel George Mathews, Lieutenant Colonels William Darke, Oliver Towles, Levin Joynes, Tarlton Woodson, and Major John Hayes, on behalf of themselves and others, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during their captivity as prisoners of war to the British army in the late war, they sustained many expenses, which the auditors do not think themselves authorised to allow; and have been charged two dollars per week for cash advanced by the public for their board, whilst their allowance for rations hath been withheld; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Captain Alexander Parker; setting forth, that he incurred and paid the expense of cure for a soldier in his company, from a disease with which he was afflicted; and praying to be reimbursed for the same by the public.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Francis Corbonneaw, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that no fund is assigned out of which to pay his claim against the State allowed by the last Assembly, and that no interest was allowed upon the same; and praying farther relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House being informed that John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, members for the county of Princess Anne, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Thorowgood and Thomas Kemp, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for allowing a bounty of lands to Colonel Josiah Parker. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, to authorise Major Croghan to locate certain lands. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Henry, Benjamin Harrison, and Henderson, be added to the committee of Claims; Messrs. Arthur Campbell and Thruston, to the committee for Courts of Justice; Messrs. Nicholas, Worman, William Nelson, Lumpkin, Newton, and Arthur Campbell, to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; and Messrs. Newton, Thorowgood, Kemp, Cowper, Henderson, Parker and Thruston, to the committee of Commerce.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, accord-

ing to order, had under their consideration the petition of Walter Crockett, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Walter Crockett; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Walter Crockett ought to be allowed to pay certificates for hemp and deer skins, to the amount of 80*l.* in part of the judgment obtained against him for public taxes.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the ten per centum damages upon the judgment and costs against the said petitioner, ought to be remitted, and that execution ought to be suspended until the 1st day of April next.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Cherry, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the month of February 1776, the said William Cherry was appointed a lieutenant in the fourth Virginia regiment, in which capacity and the rank of a captain he served until the month of August 1778, when by the arrangement of the army he became a supernumerary captain; that he continued with the army till some time in the year 1779, when he received the appointment of captain in the State regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Crockett, in which he served until the 21st of December 1781, when the said regiment was disbanded.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said William Cherry, praying that he may be allowed the bounty in lands given by law to a captain, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to enforce a speedy payment of taxes received by the sheriffs and collectors of this Commonwealth;" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Prentis, Mann Page, Nicholas, Arthur Campbell, Joseph Jones, and Thruston, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to sell certain public lands;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Henry, Kearnes, Robert Goode, Southall and Wilkinson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to compel vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" and that Messrs. Newton, Thorowgood, Cowper, and Wilson Miles Cary, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of an auditor of public accounts, in the room of Mr. John Boush, who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets with the the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Southall, Richard Lee, and Rufin, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Mr. John Pendleton, jun.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, proceed by ballot to the appointment of a door-keeper, in the room of John Creagh, deceased.

*Ordered,* That William Drinkard, jun. Zenas Taite, Isaac Ramsbottom and Richard Williams, be severally nominated for the said office.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower and require the sheriff of Monongalia county to hold the elections of a Senator and delegates for the said county, at two different places therein;" and that Messrs. William Nelson, Henderson and Wilson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Edwards have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served in the army of this State;" "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



FRIDAY, November 21, 1783.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, so much of the memorial of the officers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, as respects the bounties of lands, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said officers ought to be allowed to appoint superintendants for the purpose of regulating the surveying of their lands, and other matters contained in the subsequent resolutions.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said officers ought to be allowed to nominate and appoint their principal surveyor, (with the approbation of the Governor and Council,) with the privilege of contracting with such surveyor for his fees; and in case of his death or inability to act, the superintendants be authorised, from time to time, to appoint a principal surveyor in his stead; and such principal surveyor to appoint his deputies, to be approved of by the superintendants.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the holders of land warrants for military bounties, ought to deliver them to the principal surveyor, on or before the 15th day of March next, endorsing on the back of the warrant at the time of delivery, the number of surveys such holder chooses to have it laid off in; but that a general officer ought not to be allowed more than six, a field officer five, and a captain and subaltern four surveys in their respective apportionments of land, and the staff in proportion; that the soldiers' warrants ought to be thrown into classes of one thousand acres each, and numbered previous to drawing, and the numbers of the lot drawn to be endorsed on such class; and that the respective proprietors in each class ought to determine their choice by lot also, to be divided and numbered by the surveyor, as the soldiers, being claimants, shall direct.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That instead of the lands being first surveyed and afterwards drawn for as directed by an act of Assembly, the priority of location ought to be determined by lot, within six days after the said 15th day of March next, under the direction of the principal surveyor and General Scott, Colonel Heath, Lieutenant Colonel Carrington, Lieutenant Colonel Temple, Major Eggleston, Captain Ragsdale, Captain Carrington, or any three of them; and that all warrants not given in, on or before the said 15th day of March next, ought not to be located and surveyed, until the surveys are made for those lodged in time, but ought to be surveyed in the same order of priority as they are respectively received by the principal surveyor; and that if any proprietor of a warrant or warrants, shall by himself or agent, decline to locate and survey agreeable to the number endorsed on his warrant, such proprietor shall be postponed to those who do not refuse to locate and survey agreeable to rotation.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That every officer and soldier, or their legal representatives, ought to be allowed to attend the locating and surveying of their respective portions of land in person, or by some agent authorised for that purpose; that the portions of officers and soldiers not being transferred, ought to be surveyed under the direction of the superintendants agreeable to their number and rotation, notwithstanding such officers and soldiers may not be represented; and that the superintendants ought not to be compelled to attend the locating and surveying the respective portions of those holding by purchase, unless such persons attend by themselves or their agents.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the surveyors, under the direction of the superintendants and the claimants, having a right to survey from the priority of their numbers, ought to proceed in the first place to survey all the good lands within that tract of country set apart for the officers and soldiers, and lying on the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, of which any three of the superintendants ought to be judges, and then proceed in like manner to survey on the north-west side of the Ohio between the rivers Scioto and Little Miami, until the deficiency of all military bounties shall be fully made up.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the holders of officers' and soldiers' warrants heretofore assigned, ought to pay down two dollars for every thousand acres on officers' warrants, and so in proportion for each soldier's warrant, to the principal surveyor, at the time of lodging such warrant or warrants, (exclusive of the surveyor's legal fees,) who ought to be accountable for the proper application of all monies received with the said warrants, to such person as the said deputation shall appoint for that purpose.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That any lands which have been granted by certain resolutions of this present Assembly, or which may hereafter be granted to any person or persons, for special services or extraordinary merit, or for any consideration whatever, ought not to be located or surveyed in that tract or territory reserved for the army, until all those who have been heretofore provided for by sundry acts of Assembly, have surveyed the respective proportions of land allotted them.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor ought to be empowered and required, to furnish the superintendants with such military aid as he may think necessary, for the purpose of locating and surveying the said lands.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 9th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The eighth resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.



*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 9th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of William Baber, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he contracted a malignant fever at the siege of York whilst in the militia service, which has deprived him of his eye-sight, and renders him unable to labor for a livelihood; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Arthur Aiken; setting forth, that he has incurred great expense in the cure of a wound received in the public service at the battle of Camden, and is by the same wound rendered unable to labor for support; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Godwin, late sheriff of Nansemond county; setting forth, that he attended a late General Court with a venire and sundry witnesses for the said county, for the trial of certain persons for treason; that the persons so attending not being able to draw from the public the money due for their attendance, were constrained to defray their expenses out of the money intended to defray their public taxes, and to assign to the petitioner their audited warrants for the same; that the petitioner is in consequence deficient in his collections of the taxes as sheriff of the said county, and as county lieutenant of the recruiting tax, for which deficiencies judgment has been given against him; and praying to be allowed to discount the beforementioned auditor's warrants in discharge of the said judgment; or granted other relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by an actual survey lately taken, the centre of their county is found to be within a small distance of their present courthouse, but much more inconvenient for the business of the county and the advantage of the people; and praying that the act, "for altering the place of holding courts in the said county," may be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants in the parish of Fairfax in the county of Fairfax, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that there remains but one of their present vestry who was chosen by the people, the rest being of those elected by the vestry themselves to supply occasional vacancies, which they conceive is a power that ought not longer to be continued; and praying that the vestry laws may be amended, and overseers of the poor appointed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion, to whom it was referred to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of vestries;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the county court of Stafford to levy the tobacco due to Henry Tyler, deceased, late clerk of the said court;" and that Messrs. Mann Page, William Moore, and Gilchrist, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to continue an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments, until December 1783;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to issue another certificate of equal value with, and the same date of, one destroyed by the enemy in January 1781, the property of John Dixon, upon his previously making oath that he hath lost such certificate, and giving bond and security to the treasurer to indemnify the State.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Nelson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the account of the expenses for erecting a flag, agreeable to a resolution of the last session of Assembly, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said account, amounting to 51l. 18s. is reasonable; and that the amount thereof ought to be paid by the treasurer, out of any public money in his hands to Turner Southall and George Wray, gentlemen, for the use of the persons who were by them employed in making and erecting the said flag.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edward Ragsdale have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight; Mr. William Watkins, until Wednesday next; and Mr. ———, until this day se'nnight.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and the same being read, were amended, and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served in the army of this State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, had

the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by ballot to the appointment of a door-keeper; and to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and the General Court," being read:.

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, November 22, 1783.

The House being informed that Daniel Sanford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Daniel Sanford be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Robert Adams, jun. one of the members for the county of Campbell, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Adams, jun. be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served in the army of this State;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served in the army of this State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to continue an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments until December 1783;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the county court of Stafford, to levy the tobacco due to Henry Tyler, deceased, late clerk of the said court;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Banks Dudley, late a serjeant in the 7th Virginia regiment, praying relief in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle of Brandywine, and which has rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Capt. Alexander Parker, praying to be reimbursed by the public the sum of 4l. 10s. which he advanced and paid to Doctor William Foushee, for curing one of the soldiers late under his command, of a dangerous disorder, is reasonable; and that the said sum of 4l. 10s. ought to be paid to the petitioner out of the contingent fund; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Lankford presented, according to order, a bill "for altering the court day of the county of Pittsylvania;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the letter from his excellency the Governor, enclosing one from Thomas Bentley, respecting his claim against the public, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the sum of 2,000l. being a part of the said Bentley's

claim against the public, ought to be paid to him by the treasurer for his present relief, out of any unappropriated money that may come into his hands.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the warrants which have been issued by the auditors of public accounts, in favor of the said Thomas Bentley, on account of his said claim, ought to bear an interest of five per centum per annum, from their respective dates, till paid.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of John Vaughan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has served as a soldier and lieutenant in the service of this State, from the year 1775 until the month of February 1787; and praying a reasonable bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Henry Martin, of the island of Tortola; setting forth, that he has purchased an estate in this Commonwealth, and wishes to remove his family and effects thereto, but finds that he is precluded by an act of Assembly, from bringing his slaves; and praying to be allowed to bring with his family, a number not exceeding twelve for domestic services.

Also, a petition of William Christian and Arthur Campbell, guardians of Charles Campbell, an infant orphan, son and heir of Gen. William Campbell, deceased; setting forth, that their said ward's father in his life time, served at various times in the army and militia, and performed great and meritorious services for his country; and praying that a bounty in lands may be granted to his said son.

Also, a petition of the pilots in the district of Potomac river; setting forth, that the rates of pilotage established by an act of the last session of Assembly, are very inadequate; and praying that the same may be increased.

Also, a petition of the pilots in the district of Rappahannock river, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof; and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the honorable John Francis Mereer, one of the delegates of this State in Congress, covering the transcript of an act of the State of Massachusetts, and a statement of payments made by the several States; which were read.

*Ordered*, That the transcript of the act of the State of Massachusetts, be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States."

*Ordered*, That the Governor's letter with the other enclosures, do lie on the table.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by ballot to the appointment of a door-keeper, in the room of John Creagh, deceased; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Nicholas, Charles Carter, Richard Lee, and Southall, were nominated a committee to examine the same, and report to the House, on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of William Drinkard, jun.

*Ordered*, That the said William Drinkard, jun. be appointed a door-keeper to this House, and that he give his attendance accordingly.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Thursday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year from the 30th day of this month; and also of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Samuel Hardy and James Monroe, Esquires, who have resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### MONDAY, November 24, 1783.

The House being informed that John Scasbrook Wells, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; and John Watkins, one of the members for the county of New Kent, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Scasbrook Wells, Thomas Underwood and John Watkins, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Thomas Johnson, jun. one of the members for the county of Louisa, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Johnson, jun. be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.



A bill, "to empower the county court of Stafford to levy the tobacco due to Henry Tyler, deceased, late clerk of the said court;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for altering the court day of the county of Pittsylvania;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Lankford, General Lawson, Bibb and Breckenridge.

A bill, "to enforce a speedy payment of taxes, received by the sheriffs and collectors of this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting Walter Crockett; and for granting a bounty of lands to William Cherry. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

Ordered, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom was committed the bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof," that they receive a clause or clauses, to explain so much of an act, "for giving certain powers to the Corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes," as respects the appointment of two more aldermen.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Newton presented, according to order, a bill "to compel vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the security of creditors and the relief of debtors;" and that Messrs. Henderson, Parker, Nicholas, Henry, Richard Lee, Joseph Jones, Wilson Miles Cary, William Moore, Wall and White, do prepare and bring in the same.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" and that Messrs. White, Prentis, Tazewell, Nicholas and Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had further examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and expired on the first day of June last, ought to be revived.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, concerning pensioners," which expired in the month of May last, ought to be revived.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act of Assembly, passed at the last session, entitled "an act, to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands late the property of John Connelly," which will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly; ought to be further continued.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for regulating tobacco fees, and fixing the allowance to sheriffs, witnesses and venire men," ought to be amended.

Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the foregoing resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing part of an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and to locate warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved,* That the bill be rejected.

Ordered, That a committee be appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Prentis, Gilchrist, Norvell, William Watkins, Newton, Edmundson, William Anderson, Pickett, Strother, John Watkins, Kearnes, Sanford and Pendleton.

*Ordered*, That a message be sent to the Senate, to inform them that this House have appointed a committee to examine the treasurer's accounts, and that if they please to appoint a committee of their House for the same purpose, both committees may proceed in the business together.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the said message.

A petition of William Finie, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed deputy quarter-master general by the committee of Safety in the year 1775, which was afterwards confirmed by the General Assembly; that in the year 1776, he was appointed deputy quarter-master general by Congress, with the rank of colonel, and in the year 1777, was appointed quarter-master general of this State by the board of War, with the rank and privileges of a colonel; and praying to be allowed the same bounty of lands as is by law given to a colonel.

Also, divers petitions of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences from the great extent of their county, and their distance from the courthouse and other places of public meetings; and praying that the said county may be divided into two distinct counties, agreeable to certain boundaries therein expressed.

Also, divers petitions of sundry other inhabitants of the same county, in opposition thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters;" and "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 25, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the county court of Stafford to levy the tobacco due to Henry Tyler, deceased, late clerk of the said court;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to empower the county court of Stafford to levy the tobacco due to Henry Tyler, deceased, late clerk of the said court."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and finding the paper money of this State,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "for farther continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "for farther continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, directing the treasurer to issue a certificate to John Dixon, in lieu of one lost by him; and directing the treasurer to pay the expenses of erecting the flag. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the commissioners appointed by virtue of the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, for settling and adjusting the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office," and before whom the claims of the petitioners to land in consideration of settlements were laid, did adjudge the same in their favor, and granted certificates to the said petitioners in manner directed by the said act, who have surveyed their respective lands, and some of them, upon returning plats thereof to the Land Office, have obtained grants for the same.



It also appears to your committee, that on the 2d day of May 1783, a decree of the Court of Appeals was made in these words, to wit: "the several claims of Thomas Walker, Esq. on behalf of himself and the other members of the Loyal Company; and of Thomas Nelson, Esq. on behalf of himself and the other members of the Greenbrier Company, to grants of all the lands surveyed under several orders of Council, bearing date the 12th of July 1749, the 29th of October 1751, the 14th of June 1753, and the 16th of December 1773, came on to be heard yesterday and this day; and thereupon, the arguments of the counsel for the claimants, and of the attorney general for the Commonwealth, having been fully heard and considered; it is the opinion of the court, and accordingly decreed and ordered, that all surveys made by a county surveyor, or his deputy, properly qualified according to law, previous to the year 1776, and certified to have been made by virtue of the orders of Council to the Loyal and Greenbrier Companies, or either of them, ought to be confirmed; and that the register be directed to issue patents upon all such surveys as shall be returned and so certified."

It also further appears to your committee, that the greater part of the lands for which certificates were given to the petitioners as aforesaid, are included in the surveys of the said Greenbrier Company, confirmed by the said decree.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Greenbrier, praying that patents may issue for the lands contained in the said certificates, is reasonable.*

The said resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered, That Mr. Sherwin have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next; and Mr. James Mason, until Monday se'nnight.*

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for putting Banks Dudley on the list of pensioners; for reimbursing Captain Alexander Parker, a sum of money expended by him for the public service; and to proceed by joint ballot with this House on Thursday next, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate for the ensuing year, and of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State; also, they have agreed to the bills "declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served as soldiers in the army of this State," with an amendment, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.*

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties;" "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes';" "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.*

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 26, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'"*

*Ordered, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise the sheriff of Monongalia county, to hold elections for a senator and delegates for the said county at two different places within the same;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands late the property of John Connelly,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Breckenridge reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for altering the court day of the county of Pittsylvania," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration,



and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Pendleton and William Moore, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight,

A petition of James Gaines, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was a deputy sheriff in Orange county for the year 1782, and made a partial collection of the taxes for that year, but was prevented by sickness from completing the same in time; that the receipts for hemp and flour, tobacco notes and civil list warrants by him tendered at the treasury since the first day of August, have been refused; and that judgment is gone against his principal for a deficiency in the collection, with interest and damages, which must ultimately injure him; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Otway Byrd; setting forth, that he has served in various ranks in the army during the late war, and conceives himself entitled to a bounty in lands; and praying that a reasonable bounty therein may be granted him.

Also, a petition of Carter Page, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John Minson Galt; setting forth, that he served in various ranks in the medical department of the army, during the late war; and praying that a reasonable bounty in lands may be granted him.

Also, a petition of General Charles Scott, on behalf of himself and others; setting forth, that they received monies on account of the recruiting service in the year 1781, and at the end of the war returned the balances remaining in their hands to the treasury, having occasionally expended a part of the said monies to answer their pressing necessities, for which they hoped to be allowed to make a discount on a settlement of their pay accounts; but now find that judgments are like to be rendered against them at the motion of the solicitor, for the same; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Francis Pledge, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed by the court-martial of Goochland county, a collector of the recruiting tax in the said county; and having completed his collection, and paid in a part of the same, was in his absence from home robbed of the sum of 7*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* being the balance thereof, by some person or persons unknown, who broke into his house; that judgment is gone against him for the same; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to resume the consideration of so much of the petition of the officers of the Illinois regiment, which was depending and undetermined before the last session of Assembly, as respects their proportions of the bounty of lands allowed them by law, and the laying off a town at the falls of Ohio.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "making certain certificates for hemp and flour payable for taxes;" and that Messrs. Thruston, and William Moore, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Charles Carter reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes;" and the same were read.

The first amendment being read a second time;

A motion was made, and the question being put, that it is the opinion of this House, that the said bill being a money bill, the Senate hath no power to amend or alter, but must wholly approve or reject the same,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House doth disagree to the amendments of the Senate to the said bill.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for paying a sum of money to Thomas Bentley. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "directing the emancipation of certain slaves, who have served as soldiers in this State;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Carter do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution, permitting Abraham Buford to prove his accounts against the public by his own oath; and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do acquaint the Senate therewith,

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to empower the Governor to give annually, honorary rewards for the best literary performances at the several public schools and colleges within this Commonwealth, on the subject of the late revolution;" and that Messrs. Henry, Mann Page, Joseph Jones, General Lawson, White, Thruston, Thomas Smith, Cary, Ball, Todd, and William Cabell do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendments made by this House to their amendments, to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment, and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to empower the county court of Stafford to levy the tobacco due to Henry Tyler, deceased, late clerk of the said court." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Prentiss presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Clarke, Wilson, Cocke and Thruston, be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Ragsdale to the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts; and Mr. Nicholas to the committee to whom was referred the petition of Samuel Jones and Mayo Carrington.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be balloted for as Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, for one year from the 30th day of the present month; and also as members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Samuel Hardy and James Monroe, Esquires, who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Parker do carry a list of the persons so nominated to the Senate.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Edmund Randolph, Esq. respecting the proceedings of the persons appointed to vindicate the title of Virginia to western territory, stating the progress made in that business; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a writ issue for the election of a delegate to serve in the present General Assembly, for the county of Northumberland, until the first Monday in May next, in the room of John Heath, Esq. deceased.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States;" "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes,'" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 27, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for altering the court day of the county of Pittsylvania;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for altering the court days of the counties of Pittsylvania, Botetourt, Montgomery and Spottsylvania."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lankford do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to authorise the sheriff of Monongalia county to hold elections of a senator and delegates for the said county at two different places within the same;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to suspend the sale of certain escheated lands late the property of John Connelly,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Thruston presented, according to order, a bill "making certain receipts for hemp and flour payable for taxes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate are satisfied with the nomination for a Governor or Chief Magistrate, and have no



person to add thereto; and they have added one to the nomination for the members of the Privy Council or Council of State. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendment made by this House to their amendment to the resolution, for settling the accounts of Abraham Buford, and paying him the amount thereof. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the name of his excellency General Washington be withdrawn from the nomination for a Governor or Chief Magistrate.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, for the ensuing year from the 30th day of the present month; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Parker, Charles Carter, and Coles, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Mann Page, Henry, Nicholas, Southall, Henderson, Charles Carter, and Prentiss, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of William Christian and William Nelson, jun. Esquires.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to notify to Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley, his appointment to be Governor of the Commonwealth for one year from the 30th day of this month.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Charles Carter, Nicholas and Tazewell.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for receiving from the commissioners of Charlotte county, the tobacco notes received by them in the collection of the two per cent. tax. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendment to the amendment of the House of Delegates, to the amendment of the Senate to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" also, they do adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House to the bill "declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment in certain taxes." And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate to the bill "declaring tobacco, hemp, flour or deer skins, a payment of certain taxes."

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, imposing taxes and establishing a revenue;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Henry, William Cabell, Edmundson, Strother, Roane, Parker, Henderson, Thruston and Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Richard Bruce, deputy sheriff of Albemarle county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the month of July, having collected the full balance of taxes in cash, hemp, receipts and warrants, for the year 1782, he set out for the city of Richmond, but was prevented by a severe illness, with which he was seized on the road, from reaching it until the 6th day of August, after the time allowed by the act "for the relief of sheriffs for paying commutables into the treasury" had expired; and praying that the said articles may be now received.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Matthew Anderson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being a soldier in the service of this State during the late war, he is now disabled by infirmities from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying that he may be put on the list of pensioners.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive it would greatly contribute to the promotion of religion



and to the happiness and prosperity of the inhabitants of this State, if a general and uniform system for the support of the clergy was established; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the report from the committee for Religion, respecting the memorial of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, which was ordered to lie on the table, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to enforce a speedy payment of the taxes from the sheriffs and collectors of this Commonwealth;" "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States;" "to repeal 'an act, for giving further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, November 28, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the sheriff of Monongalia to hold elections of a senator and delegates for the said county at two different places within the same;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill to pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the sheriff of Monongalia to hold elections of a senator and delegates for the said county at two different places within the same."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence,

An engrossed bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "making certain receipts for hemp and flour payable for taxes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A bill, "directing the sale of certain public lands;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cary have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating further matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to be referred to Messrs. Nicholas, Mann Page, Henry, Joseph Jones and Carter Henry Harrison.

A petition of Savary de Valcoulon, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is agent for Messrs. Colognac, and Company, merchants at Nantz, and has been empowered by them to demand of this State payment for a considerable quantity of goods, delivered to the agent of this State in France; and praying that immediate provision may be made for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding upon the bill "to enforce a speedy payment of the taxes from the sheriffs and collectors of this Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Prentis, and Bartlett Anderson, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Fayette, Jefferson and Lincoln, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by the revival of the law, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes, the surveyors' fees are so high that many of them will be unable to discharge them; and praying that an act may pass to remedy the inconvenience, and also to compel the principal surveyors to reside in their counties, and to inhibit them from acting by deputy.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to continue an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783,'" "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth,'" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States;" "to repeal 'an act, for giving further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, November 29, 1783.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Thomas Williamson and John Spears, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the sheriff of the county of Henrico obtained an order from Mr. Bolling Starke, one of the auditors, for the treasurer to receive of the said sheriff, 40,000 lbs. of tobacco, 1,632 lbs. of hemp, 9,000 lbs. of flour, and 30*l.* 16*s.* of the one for forty money; that the petitioners, or one of them, went to the treasury office before the 1st day of August last, to settle their accounts as they said, but there being a number of sheriffs at that time in the office doing business, the petitioners were desired to come another day.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Williamson and Spears, praying that they may be allowed to pay what they have actually received in the course of their collection, towards discharging the judgment against the sheriff of the said county of Henrico, and that the ten per centum on the said judgment may be remitted, is reasonable.

The said resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was then made, to amend the report by subjoining the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the said petitioners ought to be allowed all legal discounts, which they had before, or may have since the said judgment was obtained.

And the said resolution being severally read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the report upon the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, was recommended that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all persons who have obtained certificates from the commissioners for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands, may proceed to obtain patents agreeable to the said certificates, provided they account with the grantees, for so much of the land as may have been surveyed for the said grantees, prior to the year 1776, agreeable to a late decree of the Court of Appeals.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the State should reimburse to such people the sums they have expended in commissioners' wages, surveyors' and clerks' fees, for so much land as they hold under the grantees; and that the amount thereof should be ascertained by the surveyors and clerks of the respective districts, upon oath, whose certificates shall be receivable in the payment of taxes.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That as there was no Land Office open, by which claimers under the respective land companies could procure patents, from the year 1763 until the year 1779, and there was no certainty of their tenures, under the said companies till the decision of the Court of Appeals, that they shall only be entitled to interest from the date of the said decree.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That no forfeiture hereafter shall take place for non-payment of monies due to the grantees, but that their debts ought to be upon the same footing with those of other citizens of this Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said report and resolutions do lie on the table.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Gerard Hooc, praying that the act of Assembly, for establishing public ferries, may be amended, and that others, not keepers of public ferries, may be prevented from setting any person or persons for a reward over any river or creek, whereon public ferries are established, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Monntjoy, late paymaster to the third Virginia regiment, praying such a bounty in lands may be granted him, as he hath an equitable right to, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the pilots on Potomac, Rappahannock and James rivers, as prays that the act of Assembly, for establishing their fees, may be revised and amended, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much other part of the said petition, as prays that the fees of the said pilots may be increased, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the third resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Elizabeth Rickman, widow and executrix of William Rickman, deceased, late of the county of Charles City, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said William Rickman, was on the 18th day of May 1776, constituted and appointed by Congress, director and chief physician of the hospital in Virginia, in the service of the continent; that the said Rickman continued to act under the said appointment until the 21st day of October 1780, when he resigned.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Elizabeth Rickman, praying that the auditors of public accounts may settle and allow the legal depreciation of the pay of the said William Rickman, and issue certificates for the same, and warrants for the interest thereof, as in the case of officers and soldiers, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the representatives of the said William Rickman, ought to be allowed such a portion of land, as the rank and services of the said William Rickman merit.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Henry Martin, of the Island of Tortola, praying that he may be allowed to import twelve negro slaves into this State for domestic purposes, is reasonable; upon condition that the said Henry Martin, at the same time, import the like number of white laborers or mechanics.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Minson Galt, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as is given by law to surgeons in the continental army, is reasonable.

The first resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The second resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Mann Page do carry the second resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “for further continuing an act, entitled ‘an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth;’” and “to amend the acts, for establishing the High Court of Chancery and General Court,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill “to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the said report be received on Monday next.

A bill, “to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to continue an act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;’” “to oblige vessels com-



ing from foreign parts to perform quarentine;" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States;" "to repeal 'an act for giving further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

### MONDAY, December 1, 1783.

The House being informed that Kinchen Godwin, one of the members for the county of Nansemond, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday, the 17th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Kinchen Godwin be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Timothy Peyton, one of the members for the county of Fayette, attended in custody of the serjeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Timothy Peyton be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Ralph Wormley, praying that his son John Wormley, may be permitted to reside in this State, and enjoy the rights and privileges of citizenship within the same, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Presley Thornton, praying that he may be permitted to reside in this State, and enjoy the rights and privileges of citizenship within the same, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Watts and Nathaniel Marks, inspectors at Boyd's warehouses in the town of Blandford, praying that they may be reimbursed by the public for two hogsheds of tobacco, weighing nett two thousand one hundred and seventy-seven pounds, which were stolen out of the said warehouses on the 5th day of March last, is reasonable.

The first and second resolutions, being severally again read, were on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The third resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first and second resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishment;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. White presented, according to order, a bill "directing the mode of suing out, and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*X* Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Daniel Clarke, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of General Clarke, and the testimony of Thomas Bentley, that two of the bills charged in Oliver Pollock's account (on which he founded his right to draw upon this State in favor of the memorialist, Daniel Clarke,) to the amount of ten thousand eight hundred dollars, were drawn by General Clarke in favor of the said Bentley, for the same number of paper dollars, advanced him for the recruiting service in June 1780; and that the said Bentley sold those bills to a trader, who was generally considered as an agent of Oliver Pollock's, having first informed him that they were drawn for depreciated money.

It further appears to your committee, that some of the bills included in the said account were drawn at specie value.

It further appears to your committee, that the memorialist was a fair purchaser for a valuable consideration of Oliver Pollock's bill on this State, and as far as your committee can discover, totally unconnected with the said Pollock.

It further appears to your committee, that the bills drawn by Colonel Montgomery and Captain M'Cartey, were protested by Governor Nelson; those gentlemen not having been authorised to draw upon this State.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the memorial of the said Daniel Clarke, as prays that the resolution of the last session of Assembly, directing the treasurer to make no further payments to the memorialists may be rescinded, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said memorial as prays that compensation may be made the said memorialist, for the bills drawn by Colonel Montgomery and Captain M<sup>c</sup>Cartey, and purchased by him at New Orleans, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That a further inquiry ought to be made into the value of the bills first mentioned in the report, and that on a settlement with Oliver Pollock, the State ought to have a credit for the difference between their real value and the sum paid to the memorialist.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Nicholas do carry the 1st and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of John Campbell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that notwithstanding an act passed at the last session "for suspending the sale of certain lots and lands adjoining the town of Louisville," the trustees have proceeded to the sale of several lots within the said town to the great injury of the petitioner, to whom all the said lands are now mortgaged; and praying that the act, establishing the said town may be repealed, and that a dividing line may be run between his, and the escheated lands late the property of John Connelly, agreeable to a deed of partition made between them.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered,* That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to on Saturday last, to the bill "for repealing a former act, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where they were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the register of the Land Office do lay before this House, a list of all warrants issued from his office upon treasury and pre-emption rights, and as military bounties for waste and unappropriated lands, distinguishing the same; and also specifying the quantity of land contained in each warrant, the time when, and to whom issued; and also what patents have been obtained in consequence thereof.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Wall have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday se'nnight.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henderson be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to prevent the filing informations;" and that Messrs. Thomson Mason, White, Nicholas, Henry, Joseph Jones, Roane and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That no petitions be presented to this House after Saturday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties, for the use of the United States;" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 2, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for altering the court days of the counties of Pittsylvania, Botetourt, Montgomery and Spotsylvania;" "to authorise the sheriff of Monongalia to hold elections of a senator

and delegates for the said county, at two different places within the same;" and "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners.'"

A bill, "for surveying the lands given to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishment;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "directing the mode of suing out, and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

An engrossed bill, "for repealing a former law, and declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

And then the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

Ayes 31,

Noes 55.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

On a motion made by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, and seconded by Mr. Parker;

*Ordered*, That the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, the Hon. John Tyler (Speaker,) Edward Carter, William Cabell, Archibald Stuart, Andrew Meade, Robert Adams, jun. Edmund Reade, Carter Henry Harrison, Spencer Roane, Timothy Peyton, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, George Clendinnen, Garland Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Scasbrook Wells, Thomas Coleman, Henry Todd, John Pollard, Joseph Jones, Stephens Thomson Mason, Maurice Smith, William Curtis, Kinchen Godwin. John Kearnes, John Thorowgood, Thomas Kemp, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomson Mason, James Montgomery and Thomas Newton.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, George Nicholas, Nicholas Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, Zachariah Johnston, John Cunningham, Robert Clarke, Thomas Lumpkin, Moses Hunter, Hickinson Barksdale, John Ward, Robert Gilchrist, Thomas Collier, Robert Goode, George Carrington, French Strother, George Wray, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Mann Randolph, James Wall, Isaac Coles, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, Josiah Parker, Drury Ragsdale, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. John Carter, William Anderson, Thomas Johnson, Henry Stokes, Thomas Pettus, Samuel Goode, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, James Campbell, John Cowper, John Watkins, William Dandridge, John Thornton, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, jun. William Ronald, Benjamin Harrison, John Fauntleroy, Abraham Byrd, John Rogers, Mann Page, Thomas Towles, Richard Lee and Henry Tazewell.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the foregoing bill, together with the ayes and noes, be published in the Virginia Gazette; and that a printed copy thereof be set up at the courthouse or other place of holding courts, in every county within this Commonwealth, on their respective days of holding elections of delegates in April next.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee appointed to notify Benjamin Harrison, Esq. of Berkeley, his appointment to be Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for the ensuing year, that the committee had, according to order, notified him thereof, and that he was pleased to return the following answer:

GENTLEMEN,—I beg the favor of you to present my thanks to the Assembly for the honor they have done me in electing me again to the Chief Magistracy of the Commonwealth; the approbation of the public is the highest gratification the patriotic breast can feel; mine is too sensibly affected on the present occasion, to let slip any opportunity that may offer during my continuance in office, of promoting the welfare and happiness of the State; and I request you to assure the honorable the Assembly, that as my views have hitherto been, so shall they continue directed to those great objects. To you, gentlemen, my thanks are particularly due for the very polite manner in which you have delivered the votes of the two Houses of Assembly, and I request you to accept them.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the Executive be desired to lay before this House, all the papers relative to the transactions between this State and Messrs. Penett and Company, merchants of France.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts, to perform quarantine;" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties, for the use of the United States;" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, December 3, 1783.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "to amend the acts, for establishing a High Court of Chancery and General Court;" and the same being read, were agreed to. X

Ordered, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Ordered, That Mr. Clarke have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until to-morrow.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of William M'Mechen, on behalf of himself and others of the State of Delaware, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said memorialists in their own right or in right of their ancestors, were entitled to certain quantities of land under the proclamation of the King of Great Britain, issued the 7th day of October 1763; that there was not at that time any vacant lands in the State of Delaware, of which they were residents whereby they could derive the benefits intended by the said proclamation. ✓

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the said William M'Mechen, praying that a certain quantity of land on the eastern shore of the Ohio river may be secured to the memorialists, and proportioned among them according to their respective ranks and claims under the said proclamation, be rejected. ✓

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial and petition of sundry officers of the Pennsylvania line, who served in the war which commenced in America in the year 1755, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the officers of the State of Pennsylvania, by Doctor John Morgan their agent, and one of the said officers, made application in the year 1774 to the Governor and Council of Virginia, for leave and permission to survey and lay off the portions of land, which they were respectively entitled to under the proclamation of the King of Great Britain, issued in the year 1763; that the Governor and Council were of opinion that the claim of the said officers to lands under the said proclamation was well founded, and a commission was thereupon granted by the masters of William and Mary College to Capt. William Thompson, afterwards General Thompson of the American army, appointing him either a principal or deputy surveyor, for the purpose of making the said survey within this State; that the said Thompson thereupon proceeded to make and complete surveys within this State, for as much land as would answer the claims of the said officers; but the disputes commencing about that time between Great Britain and America, and the said Thompson from principles of attachment to his country, refusing to take the oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain, the said surveys were refused to be received by the surveyor of the county wherein they were made; and the said Thompson quitted this business, and shortly after joined Gen. Washington at the head of a regiment; and that most of the said officers also entered into the service of the United States. ✓

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial and petition of the said officers, praying that their claims may be confirmed, be rejected.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of George Webb, Esq. continental receiver, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer be directed to settle with the continental receiver, for the tobacco delivered to him on account of the United States, at the prices fixed by the persons appointed, agreeable to a contract entered into between the financier general and the persons who purchased the said tobacco.

Ordered, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of several continental officers, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all judgments which have been, or may be obtained against officers, for the respective balances of monies put into their hands for the recruiting service, may be discharged by interest warrants, due to officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation; and that executions on the said judgments be stayed two months.

The said resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of sundry inhabitants of the said county of Botetourt, as prays that the glebe of their parish may be sold, to discharge certain arrears of salary due to the Rev. Adam Smyth, incumbent thereof, be rejected.

*Let Parker of "in cattle county"*

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that such of the inhabitants of the counties of Greenbrier, Montgomery, Washington and Rockbridge, as were resident in the said county of Botetourt before the division thereof, may be obliged to pay their proportions of the said arrears of salary due to the said Adam Smyth, agreeable to their lists of titheables taken in the year 1776, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the last resolution; and that the committee for Religion do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed for the examination of the enrolled bills.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Ronald, Henderson, Edmundson, White, Thomas Smith, Stewart, Roane, Todd, and Drury Ragsdale.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomack; Adam Stephen and Moses Hunter, members for the county of Berkeley; Thomas Claiborne, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Jesse Cogbill, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; John Barker, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; David Ross, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Turner Southall, one of the members for the county of Henrico; William Nelson, one of the members for the county of James City; Edward Ragsdale, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; John Edwards, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; John Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; Edmund Ruffin, one of the members for the county of Prince George; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Charles Carter, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; and Henry Tazewell, a member for the city of Williamsburg.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties, for the use of the United States;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House being informed that Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Henry Tazewell be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Dandridge, and Alexander White, be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg, be admitted to make his personal excuse, for non-attendance when the House was called over to-day, at the bar of the House, it appearing that the said Henry Tazewell has not yet taken his seat, in consequence of the order for his admission on paying fees; and still remains in custody.

The said Henry Tazewell, accordingly appeared at the bar in custody of the sergeant at arms, and addressing himself to Mr. Speaker, made his excuse to the House, for the said non-attendance.

Whereupon, it is ordered that the said Henry Tazewell be admitted to his seat, without paying fees; and that the former order for his admission on paying fees, be rescinded.

The House being informed that Turner Southall, one of the members for the county of Henrico; and Moses Hunter, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Turner Southall and Moses Hunter, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing sundry papers relative to the transac-



tions between this State and Messrs. Penett and Company, merchants of France; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Commerce.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a petition of Bartholomew Beauregard, respecting his claim against the public; which were read, and the said letter was ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Walter Hopkins, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1777 he was sent by the deputy quarter-master general to Charlestown, for the purpose of purchasing supplies for the use of the army, and was at considerable trouble and expense; and praying that some compensation may be made him for his said trouble, and his expenses reimbursed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof," was committed, be discharged from further proceeding upon a clause, respecting the laying off the streets of the borough of Norfolk, which they were instructed to receive.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for making certain receipts for hemp and flour payable in taxes;" "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;'" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth;'" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writings, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 4, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the use of the United States;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the payment of debts contracted by the United States, during the late war."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House being informed that John Thornton, one of the members for the county of Northumberland; and William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said John Thornton and William Curtis, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, allowing John Minson Galt a bounty in lands; allowing the sheriff of Henrico county to pay into the treasury, the commutables received by him in his collection of the taxes, in discharge of a judgment against him; and for allowing the representatives of William Rickman, a bounty in lands, and settling the accounts of the said Rickman against the public, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Godwin, late sheriff of Nansemond county, setting forth, that he attended two late general courts with venires, and sundry witnesses from the said county, for the trial of certain persons for treason; that the persons so attending expected to receive specie from the treasury for their attendance, but being disappointed, they were constrained to defray their expenses out of the money intended to discharge their public taxes, and to assign to the petitioner their warrants for attendance for the same, which the treasurer refused to give him a credit for in the settlement of his accounts as sheriff of the said county, and as county lieutenant of the recruiting tax; and praying relief, be rejected.



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Baber, praying relief, in consideration of the loss of his eye-sight, whilst a soldier serving in the militia of this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half pay for his present relief, from the 1st of November 1781, to the 27th instant; and also, that he ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

The 1st resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The 2d resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2d resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims; that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Francis Pledge, setting forth, that he was appointed by the court-martial of Goochland county, a collector of the recruiting tax in the said county, which collection he completed; that he accounted for a part of the same, and had a balance of 7*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* in his possession, which he was robbed of whilst absent from home, by some person or persons, who broke into his house; that judgment is gone against him for the same, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be released from payment of the said judgment, and to have a credit for the said sum of 7*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* in the settlement of his accounts under his aforesaid appointment.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Miles Wilkinson, setting forth, that a negro man slave named Cuffy, belonging to the petitioner, was in the year 1775 confined in Suffolk jail as a runaway, and was sent from thence by order of the committee of Safety to the lead mines; since which time he has not heard of the said slave, or received any satisfaction for him, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed 60*l.* for the said slave, being the sum to which he was valued, with interest thereon, from the time he was taken into public service, till paid.

The 1st resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Drury Ragsdale reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several enrolled bills to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Drury Ragsdale do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, it appears by an order of the King of Great Britain in Council, bearing date the 2d day of July last, made under the express authority of his Parliament, that the growth or produce of any of the United States of America, are prohibited from being carried to any of the British West India islands, by any other than British subjects, in British built ships owned by British subjects, and navigated according to the laws of that kingdom; and whereas, this proceeding (though but a temporary expedient) exhibits a disposition in Great Britain to gain partial advantages injurious to the rights of free commerce, and is repugnant to the principles of reciprocal interest and convenience, which are found by experience, to form the only permanent foundation of friendly intercourse between States;

*Resolved, nemine contra dicente,* That the United States in Congress assembled, ought to be empowered to prohibit British vessels from being the carriers of the growth or produce of the British West India islands to these United States, so long as the restriction aforesaid shall be continued on the part of Great Britain, or to concert any other mode to be adopted by the States, which shall be thought effectual to counteract the designs of Great Britain, with respect to the American commerce.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. White, Joseph Jones, Henry, Nicholas, William Cabell, Ronald and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House being informed that John Barker, one of the members for the county of Fauquier, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered,* That the said John Barker be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The orders of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "directing the mode of suing out, and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "making certain receipts for hemp and flour payable in taxes;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" "to continue an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;'" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, for ascertaining the number of people within this Commonwealth;'" "to repeal 'an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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### FRIDAY, December 5, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting Daniel Clarke's claim against the public. ✓

And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

Mr. White presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for granting pardon, with certain exceptions;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Henry, White, Parker, Dandridge, Henderson, and Joseph Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Henry, White, Parker, Dandridge, Henderson, and Joseph Jones, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Henderson reported, from the committee to whom the petition of Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones, in the execution of their commission under the act of the last session of Assembly, will be liable on the first day of January next, for clerk's wages and other necessary expenses, (exclusive of house-rent and the printer's charge for striking blanks) in the sum of 319*l.* 17*s.* 1*d.*

It further appears to your committee, that warrants on the treasurer have been issued as well from the office of the said commissioners as from that of the auditors of public accounts, for claims for property chargeable in the department of the continental quarter-master general, and that many such claims still remain for which warrants have not been issued; and that charges have by some counties been admitted on duplicate receipts, whereby the public may be twice charged.

It further appears to your committee, that there are many entries in the returns of the county courts for which vouchers have not appeared, and are supposed still to remain in the hands of the people; that certificates or vouchers are filed which appear to have been allowed by the courts, but are not entered upon the returns; and that claims for articles furnished continental officers in the years 1782 and 1783, have been returned, which are properly chargeable to those officers only, and will not be admitted into the continental account.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones, praying a further allowance, is reasonable; and that they ought to be allowed the further sum of two hundred and nineteen pounds seventeen shillings one and a half penny, for their services, to be paid as by the law their former allowance is directed.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That no rent ought to be charged to the said commissioners, the house occupied by them being public property.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the money charged by Mr. Hayes for printing blanks, ought not to be paid, it being his duty as public printer to print for the offices the necessary blanks.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said commissioners ought to continue to issue their warrants for claims, although the same may appear to be properly within the departments of the continental quarter-



master general, being careful that not more than one be issued for the same service; and that they make out an exact statement of all such claims, and transmit the same to the proper continental office, without delay; that no claim from any officer of that department may be admitted on the settlement of his accounts for such articles or services; but the same may go to the credit of this State with the United States.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That no warrants ought to be issued by the said commissioners, unless vouchers approved by the county courts shall be produced to them; but where vouchers appear, warrants ought to be issued, although the same may not have been entered in the returns from the respective county courts.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That warrants ought not to issue for articles furnished continental officers in the years 1782 and 1783, the same being accountable only with the continental quarter-master general, agreeable to a resolve of Congress.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of David Blair, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by the adoption of the statute staple in the year 1777, he was compelled to leave this country contrary to his inclination, because connected in business with a British subject, although he always desired to continue a citizen of this State; and praying that he may be permitted to enjoy the rights of citizenship.

Also, a petition of Archibald McCall; setting forth, that at the commencement of the war he was induced by the loss of his wife, and an anxious desire to educate his children in the most liberal manner, to attend them to Great Britain for that purpose, and now finds, notwithstanding he has always entertained a most inviolable attachment for the interests of America, that he is excluded from this country; and praying that he may be permitted to enjoy the rights of citizenship.

Also, a petition of Elizabeth Flood; setting forth, that Mr. Archibald McCall, her son-in-law, has lately arrived in this country with an only daughter, grand daughter to the petitioner; that the said McCall has petitioned this House for permission to become a citizen of this State, which if refused will involve the petitioner in distress, as his daughter's affection will not permit her to reside in a country from which her father is excluded; and praying that he may be permitted to enjoy the rights of citizenship.

Also, a petition of John Scott; setting forth, that in the year 1758, he was appointed a captain in the second Virginia regiment, and in consequence of his appointment enlisted a considerable number of men, the command of which was soon after taken from him, and he compelled to leave the service; and praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as was granted to officers of the same rank under the proclamation of the king of Great Britain, in the year 1763.

Also, a petition of Francis Conway; setting forth, that he is possessed of a tract of land in the county of King George, opposite the town of Port Royal, which is conveniently situated for a town; and praying that an act may pass establishing a town thereon.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of King George, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the proprietors of the lands on which Gibson's warehouses are erected, are unwilling to provide proper warehouses; and praying that they may be established on a lot of land nearly adjoining the said warehouses, purchased by John Gravatt and William Shropshire, for that purpose.

Also, a petition of Arthur Campbell; setting forth, that in his absence from his county, the execution of the late recruiting law devolved upon the next officer in command, who proving deficient in his collection of the tax for that service, judgment is gone against the petitioner for the same; and praying to be relieved therefrom.

Also, a petition of Matthew Pope and Joseph Hay; setting forth, that they have acted in the medical department from the commencement to the close of the late war; and praying to be allowed a reasonable bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that it will be of great public utility to open a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river into North Carolina; and also to add the public lands at Gosport to the said town; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of Philip Turpin; setting forth, that when of tender age he was sent to Great Britain for his education in the medical profession, and before the same was completed the war broke out, by which he was deprived of remittances, and being destitute of support was constrained to enter into the British service as a surgeon, and in that capacity came to America with a view to return to his friends and native country; that being prevented by the enemy from effecting his design, he was with the British army captured at York, and upon the surrender obtained Governor Nelson's permission to return to his friends, where he has remained until the late proclamation of the Executive, which he is said to come within the description of; and praying to be admitted to the rights of citizenship.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Simon Nathan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is in possession of a bill of exchange drawn in his favor on Messrs. Penett, De Costa, Freres and Company, merchants of Nantz, for fifteen thousand livres, by the board of Trade of this State, which was protested by the said Penett and Company; and praying that immediate payment of the same may be made him.

Also, a petition of William Hinds; setting forth, that being a militia man in the Kentucky country in an expedition against the northern Indians, he received two wounds in his right arm, which have disabled him from procuring a livelihood by labor; and praying relief.



Also, a petition of William Cherry; setting forth, that he acted as a commissary of provisions under the orders of General Clarke, from the 1st of June 1781, till December following, and that the auditors have refused to make him any allowance for his services; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of George Baker; setting forth, that in the year 1781, a quantity of corn was impressed from him for the use of the French army, the certificate for which was refused to be allowed by the court of Claims for New Kent county; and praying compensation may be made him for the same.

Also, a petition of William Finch; praying that a sum of money may be reimbursed him, which he expended in the cure of several wounds received in the battle of Waxsaws, whilst serving as a soldier in the service of this State.

Also, a petition of William Hill; setting forth, that whilst serving as a volunteer in the year 1781, he lost his right arm in a skirmish with the British troops at Norfolk, and is unable to procure his livelihood by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William McClenahan; setting forth, that he was sheriff of the county of Botetourt, in the year 1782, and collector of certain arrearages of salary due from the parish of Botetourt, to the Reverend Adam Smyth, their late incumbent, which from various causes he has been prevented from collecting, and judgment is gone against him for the same; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Isaac Thacker; praying that the sum of 3*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* may be reimbursed him, which he expended in the cure of a soldier belonging to the regiment of guards who was taken sick at his house.

Also, a petition of David Dardin; setting forth, that a valuable stud horse was impressed from him by Captain James Gunn, and by him sold to a Captain Thomas Glasscock, who afterwards transferred him to a gentleman in the State of Georgia; and praying that the value of the said horse may be assigned to him out of the pay of the said Gunn and Glasscock, unless it appears that the said horse was by them applied to the purposes for which he was impressed.

Also, a petition of John Ball; setting forth, that he accidentally lost two treasurer's certificates for one thousand pounds of tobacco each, which had been given as bounties to two soldiers in the service of this State, and which he had purchased of them; and praying that the treasurer may be directed to issue other certificates of the same tenor.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of the North river;" and that Messrs. Henry, Cowper, Newton, Kemp and Sandford, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Benjamin Harrison have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Thursday se'nnight; and Mr. Mann Page for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;' and that Messrs. Thruston, Henderson, and William Cabell, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to revive part of an act, entitled 'an act, for dividing the parishes of Frederick in the county of Frederick, and Cameron in the county of Loudoun, and for other purposes therein mentioned;" and that Messrs. Bird and Lumpkin, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, directing the emancipation of certain slaves who have served as soldiers in this State, and for the emancipation of the slave Aberdeen."

"An act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs."

"An act, for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'"

"An act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners.'"

"An act, for altering the court days of the counties of Pittsylvania, Botetourt, Montgomery and Spottsylvania." On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the accounts of the expenses of the messengers sent for absent members be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the same, and report their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of New Kent, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the distresses of the war, the burthen of taxes and other causes, render them unable immediately to pay their private debts; and praying that the suspension of executions may be continued, and the administration of justice made more equal.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for the security of creditors and the relief of debtors;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants in the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that it will be a great relief to the petitioners, and of general public utility to encourage the growth of hemp; and praying that duties may be imposed on foreign hemp and cordage.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Bryan Fairfax, acting attorney in fact of Robert Lord Fairfax and Denny Martin, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is interested in behalf of his principals in the proprietorship of the Northern Neck, who claim by descent from the original proprietors; and praying that the consideration thereof may be adjourned until the next session of Assembly; and that in the mean time no step be taken to prejudice the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of James Markham, William Steel and John Kautzman, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that at the dissolution of the navy, they were prisoners of war; that no provision hath been made by law for persons in their situation; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Anne and Margaret Rose; setting forth, that they were slaves to the late Waller Robertson, deceased, who, by his will, did direct that they should be sent to Glasgow in Great Britain; and that his whole estate should be sold, and the proceeds thereof remitted to them; that they are desirous of remaining in their native country and of receiving the benefits intended them by the decedent; and praying that an act may pass to confirm their said rights.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. White presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise the Congress of the United States to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river, to the waters of North river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "making certain receipts for hemp and flour payable in taxes;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" "to continue an act, to amend 'an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;'" "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, for ascertaining the number of people within this Commonwealth;'" "to repeal an act, 'for giving further time for the probatation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 6, 1783.

A bill, "to regulate elections and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to authorise the Congress of the United States to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. White, Joseph Jones, Henry, Nicholas, William Cabell, Ronald and Tazewell.

A bill, "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river, to the waters of the North river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Henry, Cowper, Newton, Kemp and Sandford.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act." And then he withdrew.

The House being informed that Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Richard Cocke be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Fauntleroy have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Nicholas presented, according to order, a bill "for granting pardon with certain exceptions;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the accounts of the directors of the Light House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tazewell, Ronald, Richard Lee, Newton, Parker and Cowper.

The House proceeded to consider the report and resolutions from the committee of Propositions and Grievances,



on the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, which lay on the table; and the same were again read at the clerk's table, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That all persons who have obtained certificates from the commissioners for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands may proceed to obtain patents agreeable to the said certificates: *Provided,* they account with the grantees for so much of the land as may have been surveyed for the said grantees, prior to the year 1776, agreeable to a late decree of the Court of Appeals.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the State should reimburse to such people the sums they have expended in commissioners' wages, surveyors' and clerks' fees, for so much land as they hold under the grantees: and that the amount thereof, should be ascertained by the surveyors and clerks of the respective districts, upon oath, whose certificates shall be receivable in the payment of taxes.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That as there was no Land Office open by which claimers under the respective land companies could procure patents from the year 1763 until the year 1779, and there was no certainty of their tenures under the said companies, till the decision of the Court of Appeals; that they shall only be entitled to interest from the date of the said decree.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That no forfeiture hereafter shall take place for non-payment of monies due the grantees, but that their debts ought to be upon the same footing with those of other citizens of this Commonwealth: *Provided,* that the petitioners shall give the grantees sufficient security for the monies due on the said lands.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "for opening the Land Office of the Northern Neck;" and that Messrs. Thruston, White, Henderson, Strother, Scott and Nicholas, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

It appears to your committee from the testimony of Laborne Goffagen, that at the confluence of James and Elizabeth rivers, the water over the bar of Sewell's Point is twenty two feet deep, and continues of the same depth over the different bars to the Devil's Reach, which is five miles above Portsmouth, and that in some places there is from ten to fifteen fathoms of water; that the lands adjoining the shore about the Devil's Reach are as high as those at Gosport; that there are five or six good places for ship building between the Devil's Reach and Gosport; that the Devil's Reach is equal to Gosport in point of convenience for ship building, the land at Gosport proper for that purpose being only half a mile in extent and those at the Devil's Reach being one mile; that all the timber brought down the southern branch to Gosport passes through the Devil's Reach; that there are rocks and shoals between these two places; but that the deponent can pilot any vessel by them without injury, the channel being sufficiently wide and deep; that one lot in Gosport would sell for as much money as would purchase a ship yard five miles above; that the deponent when in France, saw three seventy-four gun ships and two frigates building within ten yards of each other, and the whole of them did not include a greater space than two hundred yards; that the depth of water in Norfolk channel is eighteen feet, and that the sluice of the southern branch has within the memory of the deponent, filled up the Norfolk channel near six feet.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said town of Portsmouth, praying that the lands known by the name of Gosport, may be annexed to the said town, is reasonable.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Fayette, Jefferson and Lincoln, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Fayette, Jefferson and Lincoln, as prays that the several laws respecting surveyors may be amended and reduced into one act, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that more adequate salaries may be allowed the officers of the district court on the western waters, and that funds may be established within that county for the payment thereof, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Nicholas Payne, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed by Mr. John Brown a commissioner for the county of Spotsylvania; and for his services whilst acting in that department, has received a warrant for four thousand pounds of tobacco; and praying that immediate payment of the same may be made him.

Also, a petition of Francis Tomkies; setting forth, that he acted as a commissioner of the specific tax in the county of Gloucester in the years 1780 and 1781; that for his services, and monies expended during the first year in transporting provisions, he was allowed by the court of the said county a sum in paper currency, which when reduced



agreeable to the scale of depreciation, is by no means adequate to them; and praying that a further allowance may be made him, and also that he may receive payment of the specie allowance granted him for the year 1781.

Also, a petition of John Scott; setting forth, that he acted as a commissioner of the specific tax for the county of Amherst; and upon a settlement of his accounts there remained in his hands a considerable sum of paper currency, the property of the public; that his deputy attended in Richmond for the purpose of tendering it to the commissioner general, but being disappointed, he repeatedly tendered it to the treasurer, who refused to receive it; and praying that he may now be permitted to pay the same into the treasury.

Also, a petition of Smith Shepherd, executor of Robert Huggins, deceased; setting forth, that in the year 1780, a negro fellow the property of the deceased, was condemned to suffer death for a felony, by the court of Princess Anne county, and was valued accordingly to six thousand pounds; but before the execution of the sentence, he was released by a party of the British troops and left the country with them; and praying that the value of the said sum, reduced agreeable to the scale of depreciation, may be paid him by the public, as executor of the said Huggins.

Also, a petition of George Boothe and William Du-Val, inspectors at Portopotank warehouse; setting forth, that being unacquainted with the tobacco laws in the year 1781, they failed to apply in time for their salaries; that they have since made repeated applications to the auditors, who do not think themselves authorised to make them any allowance; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Catharine Helphinstone; setting forth, that her husband, very early in the war entered into the army with the rank of a major, and marched with his regiment to South Carolina; that he there contracted an indisposition which compelled him to resign in a few months, and soon put a period to his life; that herself with four small children, have since been much distressed; and praying some provision may be made for their support.

Also, a petition of Alexander McRoberts; setting forth, that he acted in the year 1781, as a commissary of military stores to the army under the Marquis de la Fayette; that he made considerable advances of money for the public service whilst acting in that capacity; and praying that the same may be reimbursed him, and that he may be put upon the same footing as to his pay, with others of the staff department who acted in the field during that invasion.

Also, a petition of Josiah Riddick; setting forth, that in the year 1779, a valuable horse and accoutrements were impressed from him into the public service, and shortly after were taken by the enemy; that in December 1780, the sum of two thousand pounds was voted him by the Assembly, as a compensation for his loss, which when reduced agreeable to the scale of depreciation is inadequate to the real value of the said horse and accoutrements; and praying further allowance.

Also, a petition of Gilbert Christian, administrator of John Christian, deceased; setting forth, that the deceased, being sheriff of the county of Augusta in the year 1775, collected the quit rents due for that year, and paid them into the treasury; that the legislature afterwards directed, that the quit rents collected for that year should be refunded to the people; and that your petitioner has since frequently applied to the treasurer for the balance due the deceased for that purpose, who has refused to pay it without the interposition of the legislature; and praying that he may be directed to pay the petitioner the aforesaid balance.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Gabriel Long, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he acted as a lieutenant in a minute battalion from the county of Culpeper, from the month of September 1775 until April 1776; that he was soon after appointed a captain in one of the Virginia regiments, in which he continued nearly three years, but was then compelled to resign by an indisposition contracted whilst on duty; and praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is given by law to those of his rank, who have served three years.

Also, a petition of William Finnie; setting forth, that as deputy quarter-master general, he has in pursuance of the resolutions of Congress, taken receipts from the continental creditors, and given them due bills for articles furnished that department by them; that these due bills are still unpaid, and the creditors are resorting to him for payment, which he is unable to make unless provision is made for the discharge of a considerable sum, due to him upon accepted orders from the State, which were intended for that purpose; and praying that immediate payment may either be made him, or the public creditors prevented from molesting his private property.

Also, a petition of Thomas Baytop; setting forth, that very early in the war he entered into the army, under an appointment from the committee of Safety; that in January 1777, he received a commission from Congress, which his circumstances compelled him to resign in December 1779, and though only a few days are wanting to complete three years service, he finds himself for that reason, excluded by law from his claim to a bounty of lands; and praying that the same may be granted him.

Also, a petition of Patrick Davis; setting forth, that a negro man, the property of the petitioner, was condemned to suffer death for a felony, by the county court of Greenbrier; and was valued, according to law to 80*l*.; and praying that the sheriff of the said county, may be directed to pay him that sum, out of his collection of the public taxes.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "directing the mode of suing out, and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "making certain receipts for hemp and flour, payable in taxes;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" "for

further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, for ascertaining the number of people within this Commonwealth;' "to repeal 'an act, for giving further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, December 8, 1783.

The House being informed that John Bowdoin, one of the members for the county of Northampton; and Edward Ragsdale, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Bowdoin and Edward Ragsdale, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A bill, "granting pardon with certain exceptions;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for putting William Baber, on the list of pensioners; and directing the treasurer to settle with the continental receiver, for tobacco delivered him on account of the United States. And then he withdrew.

Mr. White reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to authorise the Congress of the United States, to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Henderson presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "making certain receipts for hemp and flour, payable in taxes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nel-son reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas Cabell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Nicholas reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the delegates of this State to the Congress of the United States, be instructed and fully authorised, to convey by proper instrument in writing, on the part of this State to the Congress of the United States, all right, title and claim, which the said Commonwealth hath to the lands northward of the river Ohio, upon the terms contained in the act of Congress, of the 13th day of September last: *Provided*, that lands be reserved out of those hereby proposed to be ceded sufficient to make good the several military bounties agreed to be given to sundry officers by resolutions of both Houses of Assembly: the lands hitherto reserved being insufficient for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Nicholas, Joseph Jones, Henry, William Cabell, White and Randolph, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "for the security of creditors and relief of debtors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and the question being put, that the bill be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.



*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding on the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," to them committed.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be committed to Messrs. Edwards, Southall, Underwood, Garland Anderson, Clendinnen and Ronald.

A bill, "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Matthew Pope and Joseph Hay, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and disagreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, in the case of the said Matthew Pope, that he acted as surgeon to the hospital at York upwards of three years, and afterwards as director general of the State hospitals, eighteen months.

It also appears to your committee, in the case of the said Joseph Hay, that he acted from the commencement of the war to the month of November 1781, in the different capacities of surgeon's mate, apothecary and surgeon, to the hospitals in this State.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Matthew Pope and Joseph Hay, is reasonable; and that they ought to be allowed each the same portion of land, as is by law given to regimental surgeons serving in the continental army.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the Hon. Benjamin Waller, praying that the treasurer may be directed to take in a certificate, issued to him by mistake under the act, "for paying British debts," and pass his receipt to the petitioner for the sum he paid into the treasury, in conformity to a decree of the court of Chancery, made in the case of Knox and others, is reasonable; and that the treasurer shall take in the same, and pass his certificate to the petitioner, in conformity to the said decree.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Richard Bruce, deputy sheriff in the county of Albemarle, praying that he may be allowed to pay into the treasury the commutables, civil list and interest warrants, received by him in discharge of the taxes before the 1st day of August last; and that the ten per centum damages on the judgment obtained against the sheriff of the said county may be remitted, is reasonable;

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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TUESDAY, December 9, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "making certain receipts for hemp and flour, payable for taxes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, making certain receipts and warrants for hemp and flour, payable for taxes."



*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the Congress of the United States to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the Congress of the United States to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade."

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg and the court of Hustings thereof;" was read the third time and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg and the court of Hustings thereof; and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Todd reported, from the committee of Courts for Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the memorial of John Campbell, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the said John Campbell, praying that the act, "for establishing the town of Louisville," may be repealed, and that a line of division may be run between his lands and the escheated lands of John Connelly, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the right of the memorialist and his partner Joseph Simon, by virtue of the mortgage mentioned in the memorial; ought to be saved to them.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, "for establishing the town of Louisville," so far as it directs the sale of that part of the lands escheated, as the property of John Connelly, which is assigned to the memorialist by the deed of partition in the memorial mentioned, ought to be repealed.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Gilchrist have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Henry, praying that the said county may be divided by a line to be run from the head of Shooting Creek to the west end of Turkey Cock mountain, thence along the top of the mountain to intersect the dividing line between the counties of Henry and Pittsylvania, thence along that line to the mouth of Blackwater river; and that that part of the county of Bedford lying on the south side of Staunton river may be added to them, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Bedford, praying that a new and distinct county may be formed out of the counties of Bedford and Henry, by running from the mouth of Blackwater, up the meanders of Staunton river, to the great mountain, thence along the same, passing the head of Blackwater to the head of Shooting creek, thence a straight line to the west end of Turkey Cock mountain, thence along the same to intersect the dividing line between the counties of Henry and Pittsylvania, thence along that line to the mouth of Blackwater river, be rejected.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Sir John Peyton to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the property of many persons in the county of Gloucester, was distrained by the deputy sheriffs, for taxes due in the year 1782, and advertised for sale; and that on the days of sale, no person would bid for the goods, either when set up for ready money, or on credit.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Peyton, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the damages of ten per centum, together with the costs of the judgment obtained against the said John Peyton, ought to be remitted; and that he ought to be allowed to pay into the treasury all warrants and commutables by him received in discharge of taxes, prior to the first day of August last, towards satisfying the said judgment; and that the balance due thereupon, be made up in the proportion of specie and commutables, as directed by "an act, for imposing certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue," on or before the last day of January next; and that in the mean time execution be stayed.

The said resolutions being again read were, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the officers of the Illinois regiment, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the officers of the said Illinois regiment, pray-

ing that the one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land allowed and granted by the Assembly, to the officers and soldiers of the said regiment, may be surveyed and allotted to them, and that a town may be established within the said grant, upon the Ohio river, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Nicholas reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of George Rogers Clarke, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from a certificate of the auditors of public accounts, bearing date the 20th day of January 1780, that the said George Rogers Clarke, produced to them vouchers for the disbursement of 14,598 dollars on public account, which were examined by them and lodged in their office, and afterwards lost in the invasion of this State by Arnold; and that for want of vouchers to support sundry other disbursements charged in the account of the said Clarke, the same could not then be settled.

It also appears to your committee, that from the nature of the service in which the said Clarke was engaged, he had it not in his power to procure vouchers for a variety of disbursements of the public money.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said George Rogers Clarke, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts ought to allow the several charges in the account of the said Clarke, for which vouchers were lodged in their office, and have been since lost.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors ought to allow the several charges in the account of the said Clarke, amounting to 11,599 dollars, for which he hath not vouchers, upon his making oath that the said sum was bona fide paid and expended for public uses.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for granting pardon with certain exceptions;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Thruston presented, according to order, a bill "for opening the Land Office of the Northern Neck;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Henry, Joseph Jones, Ronald, William Nelson, Nicholas, William Cabell, and Stewart, be added to the committee of Commerce.

*Ordered*. That leave be given to bring in a bill "to subject the lands of delinquent sheriffs to execution;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Barker, Thruston and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the treasurer, enclosing a statement of the money and specifics received in discharge of the taxes, for the year 1782; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to regulate the elections, and to enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments until December 1783;" "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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WEDNESDAY, December 10, 1783.

*Ordered*. That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted; and the



names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Paramore, members for the county of Accomac; Edward Carter, one of the members for the county of Albemarle; Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; William Green Munford, one of the members for the county of Charles City; David Ross and John Powell, members for the county of Fluvanna; John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Bartlett Anderson, one of the members for the county of Hanover; William Nelson, one of the members for the county of James City; Carter Braxton, one of the members for the county of King William; Stephens Thomson Mason and John Carter, members for the county of Loudoun; John Edwards, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; John Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; John Cowper, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; Edmund Ruffin, one of the members for the county of Prince George; James Gordon, jun. one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell and Andrew Moore, members for the county of Rockbridge; Gabriel Jones, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; John Rogers, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Charles Carter and Thompson Mason, members for the county of Stafford; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; Joseph Pren-tis, one of the members for the county of York; and Henry Tazewell, member for the City of Williamsburg.

A bill, "for opening the Land Office of the Northern Neck; was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

The House being informed that Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg; and Edward Carter, one of the members for the county of Albemarle; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over this day;

*Ordered*, That the said Henry Tazewell and Edward Carter, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the payment of the debts, contracted by the United States during the late war," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House;" also, to the bill "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of North river, was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Byrd presented, according to order, a bill "to revive part of an act, entitled 'an act, for dividing the parishes of Frederick in the county of Frederick, and Cameron in the county of Loudoun, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed to settle the amount of the several sums of money, now due to Walter King Cole from this Commonwealth, for property sold, lately belonging to Walter King, and for the hire of negro slaves; and that warrants ought to issue for the same, bearing an interest of six per centum per annum, for which interest certificates shall also be issued to him annually, which shall be receivable in taxes, or be paid out of the unappropriated fund.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" "for granting pardon, with certain exceptions;" "to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" "to repeal 'an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" "directing the mode



of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" and "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till Friday morning, 11 o'clock.

# FRIDAY, December 12, 1783.

The House being informed that Bartlett Anderson, one of the members for the county of Hanover; and John Cowper, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Bartlett Anderson and John Cowper, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Andrew Moore, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; and John Carter, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Andrew Moore and John Carter, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "directing the sale of certain public lands;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the sale of certain public lands."

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of North river;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of North river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to revive part of an act, entitled 'an act, for dividing the parishes of Frederick in the county of Frederick, and Cameron in the county of Loudoun, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Byrd and Lumpkin.

Mr. Carrington presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "to repeal a former act, and to enable the court of Botetourt county to levy a sum of money due to the Reverend Adam Smyth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, directing the treasurer to take in a certificate issued by Benjamin Waller, Esq. and pass his receipt for a sum paid by him into the treasury; and directing the auditors to settle the accounts of Brigadier General George Rogers Clarke, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, upon the consideration of the petition of Gabriel Long, that he was a lieutenant in the Culpeper minute battalion, and was upon duty in that capacity in and about Norfolk, from the month of September 1775, to the month of April 1776; that in July following he was appointed a captain in one of the Virginia regiments upon continental establishment, in which capacity he acted three years, wanting nine days; that the said Long was with General Washington in his retreat through the Jerseys, and in the engagements at Trenton and Princeton, and afterwards attached to the light infantry under the command of General Morgan; that from the information of the said Morgan, the said Long was in seventeen different engagements with the enemy, and was a brave, judicious officer; that at the time of his resignation he was in a bad state of health, occasioned by severe duty.

It appears to your committee, upon the consideration of the petition of George Evans, that he was a surgeon to Colonel Baylor's regiment of dragoons, and acted in that capacity two years and nine months, when a dangerous wound he received from the enemy compelled him to resign.

It appears to your committee, upon the consideration of the petition of Thomas Baytop, that he was commissioned a captain in Colonel Harrison's regiment of artillery, the 13th of January 1777, and continued in service until the 11th of December 1779, when he resigned.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Gabriel Long, praying to be allowed the same portion of land, as is by law given to captains in the continental army, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said George Evans, praying to be allowed the same portion of land, as is by law given to a regimental surgeon, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Thomas Baytop, praying to be allowed the same portion of land, as is by law given to captains in the continental army, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of John Ragsdale, sheriff of the county of Lunenburg, as prays that the ten per centum damages, on a judgment obtained against him in the General

Court for balance of taxes, may be remitted, is reasonable; upon condition he pays the principal and costs of the said judgment, on or before the last day of January next.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the petition of the said John Ragsdale, as prays that he may be allowed to pay the interest and civil list warrants by him collected, towards discharging the said judgment, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Strother do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, others amended, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to empower the United States in Congress assembled, to levy certain duties for the payment of debts, contracted by the United States during the late war;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "granting pardon with certain exceptions;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for opening the Land Office of the Northern Neck;" "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" "to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments until December 1783;" "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" and "for further continuing and amending an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the number of people within this Commonwealth," being read:

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 13, 1783.

The House being informed that John Rogers, one of the members for the county of Southampton; and Stephens Thomson Mason, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Wednesday last;

*Ordered,* That the said John Rogers and Stephens Thomson Mason, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said Adam Stephen, be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "making certain receipts and warrants payable in taxes;" "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg, and the court of Hustings thereof, and for other purposes," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the payment of the debts contracted by the United States, during the late war." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Strother presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to ascertain the mode of obtaining grants to certain lands on the western waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Todd presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for repealing the act, 'for establishing the town of Louisville;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Philip Turpin, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



It appears to your committee, that previous to the late war, the said Philip Turpin, being an infant and native of this State, was sent to Great Britain by his father to complete his education, and qualify himself for the medical profession; that before this could be effected, hostilities commenced between the two nations, whereby all remittances from his friends were cut off; that during the residence of the said Turpin in Great Britain after the war commenced, he wrote many letters to his friends in this State, expressive of his great attachment to the cause of America, and of his wishes and desire to be with them; that to accomplish this, necessity not choice, compelled him to enter as a surgeon on board of a British ship bound for America, whither he arrived in the Spring 1781; and at the surrender of the British army at York, he then was permitted by General Nelson to remain in this State on parole; that the said Turpin treated the American prisoners with great humanity and attention.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Philip Turpin, praying to be admitted to the rights of citizenship, is reasonable.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.*

A bill, "to repeal a former act, and enable the court of Botetourt county, to levy a sum of money due to the Reverend Adam Smyth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

An engrossed bill, "for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;" was read the third time.

*Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship."*

*Ordered, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

An engrossed bill, "granting pardon with certain exceptions;" was read the third time, and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 69.

Noes, 11.

*Resolved, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes."*

*Ordered, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

On a motion made by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, and seconded by Mr. Henry Towles,

*Ordered, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the foregoing bill, be inserted in the Journal.*

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, William Cabell, Samuel Sherwin, John Cunningham, Robert Clark, Thomas Lumpkin, Adam Stephen, Moses Hunter, Andrew Meade; Thomas Claiborne, Hickinson Barksdale, John Ward, Thomas Collier, Robert Goode, Jesse Cogbill, George Carrington, French Strother, James Pendleton, William Watkins, George Wray, George Booker, Spencer Roane, John Edmundson, Alexander Henderson, John Barker, William Pickett, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, James Mason, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, Patrick Henry, Hugh Innes, William Norvell, William Nelson, John Seasbrook Wills, Josiah Parker, Joseph Jones, Henry Towles, James Ball, jun. William Anderson, Thomas Johnson, Henry Stokes, Edward Ragsdale, Thomas Pettus, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, Benjamin Wilson, Kinchen Godwin, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, John Thornton, William Moore, John Scott, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, jun. William Ronald, Richard Bibb, John Thorowgood, Thomas Kemp, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, John Rogers, John Taylor, Thomas Towles, John Allen, Richard Lee, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Newton.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Zachariah Johnston, Archibald Stuart, Carter Henry Harrison, Timothy Peyton, George Clendinnen, Garland Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Coleman, Henry Todd, Maurice Smith and James Montgomery.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Joseph Moore and William Cowan, attorneys in fact for Robert Walton, jun. praying that certain slaves, the property of the said Walton, and by him brought into this State from the State of Georgia, may be sold for the payment of his debts, is reasonable.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, praying that the act of Assembly, passed in May 1782, for the removal of the courthouse of the said county, may be repealed, be rejected.*

The first resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The second resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Gaines, deputy sheriff of the county of Orange, praying that he may be allowed to pay into the treasury the tobacco notes, receipts for hemp and flour, and*



civil list warrants by him collected before the 1st day of August last, towards satisfying the judgment obtained against the sheriff of the said county; and that the ten per centum damages thereon, may be remitted, is reasonable; upon the petitioner's making oath that such tobacco notes, receipts for hemp and flour, and civil list warrants, were bona fide received in the course of his collection, before the said 1st day of August.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Benjamin Mosby, deputy sheriff of the county of Powhatan, praying that he may be allowed to pay sundry civil list warrants, by him received in the course of the collection of the public taxes, towards discharging the judgment obtained against John Harris, sheriff of the said county; and that the ten per centum damages on the said judgment may be remitted, is reasonable; upon the petitioner's making oath that the said civil list warrants were bona fide received by him in discharge of the taxes.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Archibald McCall, praying that he may be admitted to the rights of citizenship, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Scott, praying that the same bounty in lands may be granted him, as was allowed and given to a captain by proclamation of the King of Great Britain in 1763, is reasonable.

The 1st and 2d resolutions, being again read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution, being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 4th resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the 1st and 2d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the resolutions upon the petition of Sir John Peyton, sheriff of the county of Gloucester, was recommended; that the committee had, according to order, had the same under consideration and have come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Sir John Peyton, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Sir John Peyton ought to be allowed to discharge one half of the sum for which judgment was obtained against him in commutables, agreeable to an act of this present Assembly; and that he be allowed until the first day of February next, to make such payment.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the ten per centum damages on the judgment obtained against the said Sir John Peyton, ought to be remitted.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Strother do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating further matters for the consideration of the Assembly, and referring to sundry papers enclosed; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist on their 11th amendment; recede from their 16th, 18th and 24th amendments; and agree to the amendments of the House of Delegates to their 3d and 19th amendments, with an amendment to the amendment of their said 19th amendment, to the bill "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of this House to the said 19th amendment of the Senate, being read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That a free conference be desired with the Senate, on the subject matter of the 11th amendment of the Senate, disagreed to by this House and insisted on by the Senate to the said bill.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Thruston do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered,* That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; George Nicholas and Edward Carter, members for the county of Albemarle; Samuel Sherwin, one of the members for the county of Amelia; William Green Munford, one of the members for the county of Charles City; Robert Goode, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; David Ross and John Powell, members for the county of Fluvanna; John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Thomas Mann Randolph and Thomas

Underwood, members for the county of Goochland; Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Bartlett Anderson, one of the members for the county of Hanover; Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; William Nelson, one of the members for the county of James City; Josiah Parker, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; Carter Braxton and Drury Ragsdale, members for the county of King William; William Anderson, one of the members for the county of Louisa; Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Francis Worman, one of the members for the county of Monongalia; John Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; John Watkins and William Dandridge, members for the county of New Kent; John Kearnes, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Mayo, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; Edward Ruffin, jun. one of the members for the county of Prince George; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; Gabriel Jones, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Charles Carter, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington; and Thomas Nelson, jun. and Joseph Prentis, members for the county of York.

The House being informed that Robert Lawson, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Lawson be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 15, 1783.

The House being informed that Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Thomas Mann Randolph, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Josiah Parker, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; Samuel Sherwin, one of the members for the county of Amelia; Robert Goode, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; William Anderson, one of the members for the county of Louisa; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Mayo, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; Bartlett Anderson, one of the members for the county of Hanover; William Nelson, one of the members for the county of James City; and John Kearnes, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Richard Lee, Thomas Mann Randolph, Josiah Parker, Samuel Sherwin, Robert Goode, William Anderson, William Dix, William Mayo, Samuel Goode, Carter Henry Harrison, Bartlett Anderson, William Nelson and John Kearnes, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act."

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for repealing the act, for establishing the town of Louisville;" was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to ascertain the mode of obtaining grants to certain lands on the western waters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the right of this Commonwealth to the territory north westward of the river Ohio;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with a power to levy certain duties for the payment of the debts, contracted by the United States during the late war;" and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "concerning fairs in the town of Fredericksburg and the court of Hustings thereof, and for other purposes;" and the same being read, were agreed to.



*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to oblige vessels coming from foreign parts to perform quarantine;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to each of the members and officers of the General Assembly, the sum of 6s. per day, in part of their wages and attendance on the present session, out of the fund appropriated to the civil list; and also the travelling expenses of the said members.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Strother presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to repeal a former act, and to enable the court of Botetourt county, to levy a sum of money due to the Rev. Adam Smyth," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the register of the Land Office, enclosing a return of the land warrants issued from his office; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of his Council, be authorised and required to propose to the State of North Carolina, either to confirm the boundary line extended by the Virginia commissioners between the States of Virginia and North Carolina, or to choose able commissioners from some other of the United States, who shall begin where Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson, commissioners from Virginia, together with others from North Carolina, formerly appointed to run the said line, ended their work: And if the termination of the old line be found truly in the latitude of  $36^{\circ} 30''$  north, to extend the same to the river Mississippi, and should the termination of the old line not be truly in the latitude aforesaid, then to run from thence due north or south to the same, and from thence due west to the river Mississippi; and that all necessary expenses incurred in carrying this resolution into execution be paid out of any money in the hands of the treasurer, not otherwise appropriated.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debt contracted by the United States;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Joseph Jones, Roane, Strother, Thomas Towles, and Edmundson, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House being informed that John Powell, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Powell be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting Samuel Jones and Mayo Carrington, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do agree to the free conference desired by this House, on the subject matter of their 11th amendment, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments," and have appointed managers, who are attending in the conference chamber. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Thruston, Henderson, Stuart, William Cabell, Peyton and Ronald, be appointed managers at the said free conference, on the part of this House, and that they do now withdraw.

The managers accordingly withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House, and reported, that they had according to order, met the managers on the part of the Senate in the conference chamber, and discussed with them in free conference the subject matter of the foregoing amendment; after which, the managers on the part of this House withdrew, promising to report to the Senate, the result of the further proceedings of this House therein, by message.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of debts contracted by the United States;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Pendleton reported, from the committee appointed to examine the accounts of the treasury, that the committee had, according to order, carefully examined and compared the same, with their proper vouchers from the settlement of the last accounts, viz: From the 1st day of December 1782, until the 11th day of December 1783, inclusive; by which it appears, that Jaquelin Ambler, Esq. treasurer, has received within those periods in specie, specie



warrants and certificates, and commutable articles to the amount of 185,199*l.* 9*s.* 11 1-2*d.* on various accounts; it appears also, that the said treasurer has disbursed to the amount of 164,620*l.* 19*s.* 7 1-4*d.*: The said treasurer produced also to your committee, bills of credit of the 18th of March 1780, which had been paid in part of the land tax for the year 1782, amounting to 3,369*l.* 14*s.* which your committee examined, punched and rendered unpassable: It appears also, from the account of sales of the commutable articles disposed of by the said treasurer, that a loss has been sustained thereon to the amount of 13,188*l.* 19*s.* 4 1-4*d.* which leaves a balance of 4,018*l.* 17*s.* to be carried to the credit of the State in the next account.

The accounts appear to have been fairly kept, but for a more clear explanation, your committee beg leave to refer to the general account annexed.

<i>Dr.</i> <i>The Public Treasury in account with J. AMBLER, Treasurer.</i>							
To balance of account settled to the 30th of November 1782,	-	-	-				£ 37,464 17 1
Officers of the customs by virtue of the revenue law,	-	-	-	£ 6,093	12	8 1-4	
Ditto duties on salt,	-	-	-	158	6	8 1-2	
							6,251 19 4 3-4
Escheators,	-	-	-				6,595 18 1 1-2
Inspectors for tax on tobacco exported,	-	-	-	4,192	0	11 3-4	
Ditto rents, &c.	-	-	-	577	12	2	
							4,769 13 1 3-4
Benjamin Harrison, agent for sale of commutables,	-	-	-				16,463 12 7 1-4
Money received by virtue of last recruiting law,	-	-	-				10,663 16 0 3-4
Sundries,	-	-	-				3,568 19 2
Land Office,	-	-	-				1,830 13 4
Sheriffs for revenue taxes, 1782,	-	-	-				97,510 5 7 1-2
Ditto, ditto, 1783,	-	-	-				78 15 5
							£ 185,198 9 11 1-2

<i>The Public Treasury in account with J. AMBLER, Treasurer.</i>				<i>Cr.</i>			
By amount of disbursements from the 1st December 1782, to 11th December 1783, inclusive, as appears by receipts and vouchers produced,	-	-	-	£ 164,620	16	7	
By bills of credit of the 18th of March 1780, received in payment of one tenth of the land tax of 1782, produced to the committee, punched and rendered unpassable, amounting to	-	-	-				3,369 14
By loss sustained in sale of the commutable articles of the treasury, from the 28th December 1782, to the 11th December 1783, inclusive, as appears by the book of sales, produced to and examined by the committee,	-	-	-				13,188 19 4 1-4
By difference of errors in warrants paid in by George Hairstone, 27th May, and John Pierce, 1st October 1783, difference is	-	-	-				3 0 1-4
Balance carried to new account,	-	-	-				4,018 17
							£ 185,198 9 11 1-2

*Errors Excepted,*

*J. AMBLER.*

And the said report being again read at the clerk's table;

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That the treasurer's accounts do pass.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Pendleton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the several orders of the day on Saturday last, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments until December 1783;" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "to regulate elections and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" be revived and postponed until to-morrow.

A bill, "to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debt contracted by the United States;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "appointing certain persons to receive subscriptions, and contract with undertakers for the clearing of James river through the South Mountain; and that Messrs. Andrew Moore, Cunningham, Johnson and Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Patrick Gleson, lately a soldier in the 3d regiment of light dragoons, being by a wound received in the service rendered incapable of supporting himself by labor, be added to the list of pensioners.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment and establishing a town within the said grant;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the right of this Commonwealth to the territory northwestward of the Ohio river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 16, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal a former act, and to enable the court of Botetourt county to levy a sum of money due to the Reverend Adam Smyth;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder, directing that the counties of Washington, Montgomery, Rockbridge and Greenbrier, should be allowed a discount in the said levy for the value of the glebe of the parish of Botetourt.

And the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal a former act, and to enable the court of Botetourt county to levy a sum of money due to the Reverend Adam Smyth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clendinnen do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for repealing the act for establishing the town of Louisville;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for repealing in part, the act for establishing the town of Louisville."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for providing certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debt contracted by the United States;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for providing certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debt contracted by the United States."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to prevent the filing information;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to the waters of North river." And then he withdrew.

A bill, "for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment, and establishing a town within the said grant;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to amend the act, for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" was read the second time, and amended at the clerk's table.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; George Nicholas and Edward Carter, members for the county of Albemarle; Nicholas Cabell, one of the members for the county of Amherst; John Breckenridge, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Andrew Meade, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; William Green Munford, one of the members for the county of Charles City; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; David Ross, one of the members for the county of Fluvanna; John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Nathaniel Wilkinson, one of the members for the county of Henrico; Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; William Norvell, one of the members for the county of James City; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; Carter Braxton, one of the members for the county of King

William; Stephens Thomson Mason, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Edward Ragsdale, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; John Edwards, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Francis Workman, one of the members for the county of Monongalia; John Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; John Cowper, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; John Watkins and William Dandridge, members for the county of New Kent; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; Edmund Ruffin, jun. and Benjamin Harrison, jun. members for the county of Prince George; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; Gabriel Jones, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah, Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; Richard Henry Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington; Joseph Prentiss, one of the members for the county of York; and Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That when this House adjourns on Saturday next, it will adjourn until the last day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill "to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "for amending the several acts for regulating public ferries," was committed, that they receive a clause or clauses, for establishing a ferry across the rivers Staunton and Dan, near the confluence of the said rivers.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to continue an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments, until December 1783;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolutions, respecting the claim of George Rogers Clarke; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to ascertain the mode of obtaining grants to certain lands on the western waters;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Carrington presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for the election of overseers of the poor;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Andrew Moore presented, according to order, a bill "appointing certain persons to receive subscriptions and contract with undertakers for clearing James river, through the South Mountain;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the deputations of officers, viz: Generals Scott and Morgan, Colonels Heth and Temple, from the continental line; and General Clarke, Colonel Dabney and Captain Roane, from the State line, having attended the General Assembly on the business of their respective memorials, be allowed the sum of two dollars per diem respectively, and the same sum for every day's travelling expenses to and from this place; and that the same be paid by the treasurer, out of the money appropriated for the payment of the certificates granted the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation, deducting the same from the interest due, or to become due to the said officers, upon their military certificates.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the accounts of the expenses of the messengers sent for absent members, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the account of Anthony Dunlavey, amounting to 2*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* and also the account of Benjamin Jennings, amounting to 8*l.* 1*s.* as special messengers sent after delinquent members, are reasonable; and that the treasurer ought to pay the same out of the fund appropriated for the civil list.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "appointing certain persons to receive subscriptions, and contract with undertakers for clearing James river through the South Mountain;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Smith Shepherd, executor of Robert Huggins, deceased, setting forth, that a negro fellow, the property of the decedent was, in the month of October, in the year 1780, condemned by the court of Princess Anne county, to suffer death for a felony; that he was valued according to law, to six thousand pounds; but before his execution he was released by a party of the British troops, with whom he left the country; and praying that the valuation of the said slave may be liquidated agreeable to the scale of depreciation, and paid to him as executor of the said Robert Huggins, by the public, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Josiah Riddick, praying that a further allowance may be made him by the public, in addition to the allowance made him by the Assembly in December 1780, for a horse and accoutrements which were impressed from him in the public service, and shortly after taken by the enemy, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying a sum of money to Miles Wilkinson; and directing the treasurer to receive certain tobacco notes and receipts for hemp and flour, in discharge of a judgment against the sheriff of Orange county; also, they do recede from their amendment, to their disagreement of which this House hath adhered, to the bill "for surveying the lands given by law, to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments." And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the rights of this Commonwealth to the territory northwestward of the river Ohio;" "to repeal an act, for giving further time for the probatation of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and "to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 17, 1783.

*Ordered,* That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default, being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered,* That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; George Nicholas and Edward Carter, members for the county of Albemarle; John Breckenridge, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Andrew Meade, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; William Green Munford, one of the members for the county of Charles City; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; James Mason, one of the members for the county of Greensville; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Nathaniel Wilkinson, one of the members for the county of Henrico; Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; William Norvell, one of the members for the county of James City; Josiah Parker, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; Carter Braxton, one of the members for the county of King William; Stephens Thomson Mason, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Edward Ragsdale, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; Francis Worman, one of the members for the county of Monongalia; John Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; John Cowper, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; John Watkins and William Dandridge, members for the county of New Kent; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; Edmund Rufin, jun. and Benjamin Harrison, jun. members for the county of Prince George; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell, one of the members for the county of

Rockbridge; Gabriel Jones, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington; and Joseph Prentis, one of the members for the county of York.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Byrd have leave to be absent from the service of this House, during the remainder of the session.

An engrossed bill, "to ascertain the mode of obtaining grants to certain lands on the western waters;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to ascertain the mode of obtaining grants to certain lands on the western waters."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, for establishing pilots and regulating their fees;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, for establishing pilots and regulating their fees."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House being informed that Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on this day;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Underwood, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "appointing certain persons to receive subscriptions, and contract with undertakers for the clearing of James river through the South Mountain;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act appointing certain persons to receive subscriptions and contract with undertakers, for the clearing of James river through the South Mountain."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Andrew Moore do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolutions respecting Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Anderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for the election of overseers of the poor;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendment, be recommitted to the committee of the whole House.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Abraham Outten and Thomas Parramore, members for the county of Accomac; George Nicholas and Edward Carter, members for the county of Albemarle; Andrew Meade and Thomas Claiborne, members for the county of Brunswick; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; William Green Munford, one of the members for the county of Charles City; John Banister, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Charles Broadwater, one of the members for the county of Fairfax; John Crittenden and Timothy Peyton, members for the county of Fayette; Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Elias Poston and Abraham Hite, members for the county of Hampshire; Nathaniel Wilkinson, one of the members for the county of Henrico; William Norvell, one of the members for the county of James City; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; Carter Braxton, one of the members for the county of King William; Stephens Thompson Mason, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Edward Ragsdale, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; John Edwards, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; Francis Worman, one of the members for the county of Monongalia; John Preston, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; John Cowper, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; John Watkins and William Dandridge, members for the county of New Kent; John Bowdoin and Isaac Avery, members for the county of Northampton; David Shepherd and Ebenezer Zane, members for the county of Ohio; Edmund Ruffin, jun. and Benjamin Harrison, jun. members for the county of Prince George; James Gordon, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Charles Campbell, one of the members for the county of Rock-



bridge; Gabriel Jones, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Charles Carter, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Richard Cocke, one of the members for the county of Surry; Gray Judkins and Sterling Harwell, members for the county of Sussex; Cole Digges, one of the members for the county of Warwick; Arthur Campbell, one of the members for the county of Washington; Joseph Prentis, one of the members for the county of York; and Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and “prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes,” with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for repealing in part, the act, ‘for establishing the town of Louisville,’ with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the resolution, respecting the accounts of George Rogers Clarke against the public; and adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the resolutions, respecting Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones; also, they agree to the resolution, for making an allowance to the deputation of officers attending the General Assembly, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing bounties of land to Gabriel Long, Thomas Peyton and George Evans; and to remit the ten per centum damages upon a judgment obtained against the sheriff of Lunenburg. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;” and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;” and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Thruston presented, according to order, a bill “directing the lands of delinquent sheriffs to be taken in execution;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, “directing the lands of delinquent sheriffs to be taken in execution;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, for making an allowance to the deputation of officers attending the General Assembly; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Newton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing sundry papers relative to Peter Penett, late agent of this State in France; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Commerce.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill “for admitting certain persons to the rights of citizenship;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to prevent the filing of informations;” “for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment, and establishing a town within the said grant;” “to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the right of this Commonwealth to the territory north-westward of the river Ohio;” and “to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, December 18, 1783.

The House being informed that Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Timothy Peyton, one of the members for the county of Fayette; William Curtis, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; and Stephens Thomson Mason, one of the members for the county of Loudoun, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Samuel Goode, Timothy Peyton, William Curtis and Stephens Thomson Mason, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Thomas Claiborne, one of the members for the county of Brunswick, attended



in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Claiborne be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

A bill, "for admitting certain persons to the rights of citizenship;" was read the second time, and amended at the clerk's table.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Todd reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills; that the committee had, according to order, examined several, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd do carry the bills to the Senate, for their inspection.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for reducing the several acts of Assembly, concerning surveyors, into one act;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to repeal in part, the act, 'establishing the town of Louisville;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Todd do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendments proposed by this House, to their amendments to the bill "prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth, and for other purposes." And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the right of this Commonwealth to the territory north-westward of the river Ohio;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment, and establishing a town within the said grant;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prevent the filing of informations;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debt contracted by the United States;" also, they agree to the amendments proposed by this House to their amendments to the bill "for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;" and adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also, they have passed the treasurer's account. And he delivered in the same, and then withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting [Copy blank.] with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" "for the election of overseers of the poor;" "to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" and "to subject the lands of delinquent sheriffs to execution," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, December 19, 1783.

An engrossed bill, "for the admission of certain persons to the rights of citizenship;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for the admission of certain persons to the rights of citizenship."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the right of this Commonwealth to the territory north-westward of the river Ohio;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, the right of this Commonwealth to the territory north-westward of the river Ohio."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment, and establishing a town within the said grant;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment, and establishing a town within the said grant."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent the filing of informations;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prevent the filing of informations."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Bartholomew Beauregard, attorney in fact for the widow and heirs of his brother James Beauregard, deceased, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the testimony of Charles Gratiot and Richard Winston, that Col. John Todd was in the year 1779 actually furnished by Elie Toutant Beauregard, son of the said decedent, with upwards of 200 packs of peltries, which were exchanged by the said Col. Todd for provisions, liquors and other necessaries, for the use of the troops under his command; and that each pack was of the value of forty silver dollars.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Col. Todd, for the said supply of peltries did, on the 13th of December 1779, draw a bill on this State in favor of the said Elie Toutant Beauregard for 30,000 specie dollars; that it was suggested to your committee by the petition, that a quantity of merchandize, and also a sum of paper dollars, were furnished and advanced by the said Elie Toutant Beauregard, for the use of Col. Todd's troops in addition to the supply of peltries; and that the same are included in the said bill, but no satisfactory proof thereof appeared to your committee.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitioner, as attorney aforesaid, ought to be allowed and paid for the 225 packs of peltries, at the rate of forty silver dollars for each pack, making 9,000 dollars in full for the said bill of exchange, drawn in favor of his nephew, Elie Toutant Beauregard.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the bill of exchange drawn on the treasurer of this State, by Lieutenant Col. John Montgomery, in favor of the said Elie Toutant Beauregard, for 12,000 silver dollars for merchandizes furnished for the use of the troops under his command, ought not to be paid; it appearing that the said Lieutenant Col. Montgomery was not authorised by this State to draw bills on the same.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitioner ought to be allowed an interest of five per centum on the said 9,000 dollars, from the 13th day of December 1779, till paid.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Jones reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was committed, that the committee had,



according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Jones reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating further matters for the consideration of the General Assembly; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Innes, praying that the same portion of land may be granted him, as is by law given to a colonel serving three years in the continental army, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Christian and Arthur Campbell, guardians to Charles Campbell, the only son of General William Campbell, deceased, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That after the lands given by law as bounties to the officers and soldiers, shall be surveyed and laid off, 5,000 acres of the surplus be granted to the said Charles Campbell, in consideration of the meritorious services of his late father, General William Campbell, deceased.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of King George, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established on a lot or half acre of land, the property of John Gravett and William Shropshire, in the said county, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Francis Conway, praying that ten acres of his land, as laid out into lots of half an acre each with convenient streets, lying on Rappahannock river in the county of King George, may be established a town, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 4th and 5th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Jones reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Underwood reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the resolutions upon the petition of Savary De Vaulcoulon, agent for Messrs. Coulougnac and Company, merchants of Nantz, to them recommitted, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Savary De Vaulcoulon, praying that provision may be made for the payment of a sum of money due to Messrs. Coulougnac and Company, for a quantity of merchandize delivered to Mr. Peuet on account of this State, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive be requested to examine the accounts of the said Coulougnac and Company, and state the balance due to them.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer be directed to pay the balance, which shall appear to be due to the said Coulougnac and Company, upon the settlement of their accounts out of any unappropriated public money in his hands.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Underwood do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—I am commanded by the Senate, to inform this House that they cannot despatch the business before them, by the time at which this House proposes to adjourn; and that they have agreed to the bill "appointing certain persons to receive subscriptions, and contract with undertakers for the clearing of James river through the South Mountain," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Andrew Moore do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the number of laws, at present allowed to the different counties within this Commonwealth, have in many



instances proved insufficient, and the necessity that induced the General Assembly to establish such allowance, no longer existing;

*Resolved*, That the public printer be directed henceforth, to publish and deliver to the order of a delegate of each county or corporation, so many copies of the acts of each session of Assembly, as will furnish one to the clerk, sheriff, and each acting magistrate of such county or corporation; and that the respective numbers which, by this resolution, will be required, shall be notified to the printer by the Executive.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stephens Thomson Mason do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, to the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for admitting certain persons to the rights of citizenship;" and "to repeal a former act, and enable the court of Botetourt to levy certain arrears of salary due to the Reverend Adam Smyth," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House and adhered to by the Senate, to the resolution respecting Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Henderson reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

And the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

An engrossed bill, "to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones do carry the bill to the Senate and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the petition of William Hume, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, in consideration of a wound which he received in the year 1781, near Williamsburg, whilst serving in the militia ordered from the county of Fauquier, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the half pay of a soldier for three years, to commence from the 10th day of April 1781.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Pickett do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" "for the election of overseers of the poor;" and "to subject the lands of delinquent sheriffs to execution," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till the 25th day of March next.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George;" and the same was received and read the first time; and the question being put, that the bill be read a second time;

*Ordered*, That the further consideration of the said bill be postponed until the 25th day of March next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as follows :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Francis Tomkies, setting forth, that in the years 1780 and 1781, he acted as a commissioner of the specific tax in the county of Gloucester; that for his services during the first year, and for monies expended in transporting provisions, he was allowed by the court of the said county a sum in paper currency, which, when reduced agreeable to the scale of depreciation, is by no means adequate to them; and praying that a further allowance may be made him; and also, that he may receive payment of the specie allowance granted him for the year 1781, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Scott, setting forth, that he acted as a commissioner of the specific tax for the county of Amherst, and upon a settlement of his accounts there remained in his hands a considerable sum of paper currency, the property of the public; that the same has been repeatedly tendered to the treasurer, who refused to receive it; and praying that he may now be permitted to pay the same into the treasury; ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Alexander McRoberts, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he acted as a commissary of military stores to the army under the Marquis de la Fayette, and whilst acting in that capacity, he made considerable advances of money for the public service; and praying that the same may be reimbursed him, and that he may be put on the same footing as to his pay with others of the staff department, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to settle the petitioner's accounts, and grant him warrants accordingly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of James Kemp and Granville Smith, as prays that they may be covered from a suit at law commenced against them in the General Court by a certain John Hague, for the payment of twelve month's house rent in the city of Richmond, which was appropriated to their use for an office as assistant quarter-master's in the service of this State in the year 1781, amounting to 4,500 pounds tobacco, is reasonable; and that the same, together with the costs of the said suit, ought to be paid by the treasurer out of any unappropriated money in his hands.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that they may be relieved from sundry other contracts which they made whilst they were assistant quarter-masters under Colonel Porterfield, be rejected.

The 1st, 2nd, 3d, 4th and 6th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 5th resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the third resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Duncan Rose, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the month of April of the year 1781, there was a debt due to the petitioner from the public in tobacco; that there being no tobacco at that time in the treasury, the petitioner received two auditor's warrants for 21,680*l.* 4*s.* paper money, which would at that time have purchased the quantity of 28,906 2-3 pounds of tobacco at 75*l.* per hundred.

It farther appears to your committee, that the petitioner made repeated applications at the treasury for payment of the said warrants; but from the confusion which the State was in from the invasion of the enemy, the same were never paid.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Duncan Rose, praying that the said warrants may be cancelled, and that other warrants may be granted him, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 216*l.* 16*s.* with interest thereon from the date of the warrants.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, amended and agreed to by the House, as follows:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Francis Smyth, praying relief from a judgment recovered against him by the solicitor in the General Court, for a sum of money which he received in the year 1778, for the purpose of recruiting men, and which he deposited in the Loan Office, because the auditors would not settle his accounts and make him an allowance agreeable to his recruiting instructions, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Hill, praying relief in consideration of the loss of his right arm whilst serving as a volunteer in a corps commanded by Captain Amos Weeks from the county of Princess Anne, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half pay for his present relief from the time he was wounded, to the 8th instant; and also, that he ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Hinds, praying that he may be put on the list of pensioners in consideration of a wound which he received in his right arm, and which has deprived him



of the use of it whilst serving as a soldier in the militia, ordered out from the county of Kentucky against the northern Indians, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Walter Hopkins, setting forth, that in the year 1777, he was employed by William Finnie, late deputy quarter-master of this State, to go to Charlestown for the purpose of purchasing supplies for the use of the army, and whilst he was engaged in that business, he was at considerable trouble, and incurred considerable expense; and praying that compensation may be made him by the public for the same, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Ball, setting forth, that he purchased two treasurer's certificates for one thousand pounds of tobacco each, which were granted to two soldiers by the names of Charles King and Samuel Brown, for their bounties; that he has by accident lost the said certificates, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that two other certificates ought to be issued in favor of the petitioner for 10*l.* each, upon his giving bond to indemnify the State against those which he has lost.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2nd, 3d and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the sheriffs of the counties of Norfolk and Fauquier, are hereby empowered and allowed to pay into the public treasury any money, tobacco, civil list or interest warrants by them collected, to be applied towards discharging the judgments obtained against them in the General Court; upon making oath that the same was bona fide received by them in discharge of taxes, before the 1st of August last, and that they be exonerated from the ten per cent. interest.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Nelson, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said William Nelson served two years in the continental army, in the ranks of major and lieutenant colonel; that he was in an ill state of health at the time of his resignation; that the said William Nelson commanded a regiment of militia, in four different invasions of this State by the enemy.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said William Nelson, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is given by law to lieutenant colonels serving three years in the continental army, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Nicholas Payne, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Nicholas Payne, praying that compensation may be made him by the public for his services whilst employed as a commissioner for the county of Spottsylvania, under the appointment of John Brown, late commissary general of this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 40*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* for the same, with interest thereon, until paid.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, allowing a sum of money to William Shepherd, executor of Robert Huggins; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it appears that the sheriff of the county of Dinwiddie, did make application to the auditors before the 1st day of August last, to settle his account for the balance due on the taxes of the said county, and offered payment in cash and civil list warrants to the full amount of what appeared to be due; but that the auditors refused to make such settlement and receive the money and warrants so offered, because the said sheriff could not make oath that he had actually received the same from the people in discharge of their taxes;

*Resolved,* That the sheriff of the said county of Dinwiddie, ought to be permitted to pay in the money and civil list warrants so by him offered in payment of the taxes of the said county, and that the ten per centum on the judgment entered against him, be remitted.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, James Markham, late a captain in the naval service of this State, did, in the years 1779 and 1780, receive from the public treasury the sum of 5,007*l.* paper money, to be disbursed by him on public account: And whereas, the said James Markham was taken a prisoner by the British, whilst in possession of the vouchers for the expenditure of the said sum of money, which were taken from him and destroyed, whereby he has been prevented from settling his accounts and obtaining a quietus from the auditors;



*Resolved, therefore,* That the auditors of public accounts be, and they are hereby authorised to grant to the said James Markham, a quietus for the said sum of 5,007*l.* and give him a credit in their books for the same; and also, that they be directed to adjust and settle his accounts against this State for his depreciation of pay and other emoluments whilst in service, and grant him certificates for such balance as shall appear due.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That during the remainder of the present session it be a standing order of the House, that immediately after prayers the names of the members be called over.

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That the resolution of the 16th instant, directing that when this House adjourns on Saturday next it will adjourn to the last day of March next, be rescinded.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Thruston do acquaint the Senate therewith.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 20, 1783.

The House being informed that Nathaniel Wilkinson, one of the members for the county of Henrico; John Pollard, one of the members for the county of King George; and Edmund Ruffin, jun. one of the members for the county of Prince George, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when this House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered,* That the said Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Pollard and Edmund Ruffin, jun. be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters, and at Gibson's in the county of King George."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Jones do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Edmundson reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Edmundson do carry the bills to the Senate for their inspection.

*Ordered,* That the committee to whom were referred a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Walker Daniel, Esq. be discharged from further proceeding thereon.

Mr. Underwood reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the letter from Monsieur Cabarras, vice-consul of France in this State, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that two sailors, Americans by birth, shipped themselves on board a French vessel, bound from France to Virginia; that they stipulated to navigate the said vessel as mariners on her voyage to this State; that being now in Virginia they refuse to comply with their engagement by returning.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the matter stated in the said letter is properly cognizable before the courts of judicature; and that the party praying relief may have his remedy at law.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

It appearing to this Assembly, that Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones, in the execution of their commission under the act of the last session of Assembly, will be liable on the 15th day of February next, for clerk's wages and other necessary expenses, exclusive of house rent and the printer's charge for striking blanks, in the sum of 319*l.* 17*s.*

It further appearing that warrants on the treasurer have been issued as well from the office of the said commissioners as from that of the auditors of public accounts, for claims for property chargeable in the department of the continental quarter-master general; and that many such claims still remain, for which warrants have not been issued; and that charges have by some counties been admitted on duplicate receipts, whereby the public may be twice charged.

It further appearing that there are many entries in the return of the county courts, for which vouchers have not appeared, and are supposed still to remain in the hands of the people; that certificates or vouchers are filed, which appear to have been allowed by the courts, but are not entered upon the returns; and that claims for articles furnished continental officers in the years 1782 and 1783, have been returned, which are properly chargeable to those officers only, and will not be admitted into the continental account.

*Resolved,* That the petition of the said Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones, praying a further allowance, is reasonable; and that they be allowed the further sum of 319*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.* to be paid, as by law the their former allowance

is directed; and that the said commissioners be authorised to continue in the discharge of their duty until the 15th day of February next, unless the business with which they are charged shall be sooner finished.

*Resolved*, That no rent be charged to the said commissioners; but that the same be paid by the public.

*Resolved*, That the money charged by Mr. Hayes for printing blanks, shall not be paid, it being his duty as public printer, to print for the officers the necessary blanks.

*Resolved*, That the said commissioners do continue to issue their warrants for claims, although the same may appear to be properly within the department of the continental quarter-master general, being careful, that not more than one be issued for the same service; and that they make out an exact statement of all such claims, and transmit the same to the proper continental officer without delay, that no claim from that department may be admitted on the settlement of his accounts for such articles or services, but the same may go to the credit of this State with the United States.

*Resolved*, That no warrants be issued by the said commissioners, unless vouchers approved by the county courts, shall be produced to them; but where vouchers appear, warrants shall issue, although the same may not have been entered in the return from the respective county courts.

*Resolved*, That warrants shall not issue for articles furnished continental officers in the years 1782 and 1783, the same being accountable only with the continental quarter-master general, agreeable to a resolve of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the said commissioners do make out a list of all claims, for which no warrants have been issued from their office; and transmit a copy of the same to the several county court clerks, who shall cause a copy thereof to be fixed up in the courthouse of their county, for the inspection of the people.

And the said resolutions being read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, many inconveniences have resulted from the delay in publishing the laws, and a speedy promulgation of them is absolutely necessary, for the relief of those who are entrusted with the execution of them;

*Resolved*, That the public printer be directed to have the laws, passed at every session of the General Assembly, printed and published within thirty days after the rising thereof; and in case they should not be done within the time before mentioned, the Governor with advice of the Council, is hereby authorised and empowered to appoint any other person to the office of public printer, who shall execute the office, and have the salary allowed to the present public printer for his said services.

And the resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, this day, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a naval officer for the district of Elizabeth river, in the room of John King, Esq. deceased.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmundson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly, for their services during the present session:

To the Rev. Benjamin Blagrove, at the rate of	-	-	-	£ 10	per week.
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates,	-	-	-	35	per week.
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate,	-	-	-	17 10	per week.
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, clerk of the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances,	-	-	-	15	per week.
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice and of Claims,	-	-	-	12	per week.
To Mr. Charles Hay, clerk of the committee of Commerce,	-	-	-	7	per week.
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, sergeant at arms to the House of Delegates,	-	-	-	10	per week.
To Mr. William Pierce, sergeant at arms to the Senate,	-	-	-	10	per week.
To the representatives of John Creagh, for his services as door-keeper to the House of Delegates,	-	-	-	30	
To William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks and John Hicks, door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each	-	-	-	4 10	per week.
To William Drinkard, jun. door-keeper to the House of Delegates, from the day of his election,	-	-	-	4 10	per week.
To William Hicks and Thomas Paul, door-keepers to the Senate, each	-	-	-	4 10	per week.
To Elizabeth Jones, for taking care of and keeping clean the Assembly House,	-	-	-	10	
To Zenas Tate, as keeper of the public buildings,	-	-	-	10	per annum.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to nominate persons proper to be ballotted for as a naval officer, for the district of Elizabeth river, in the room of John King, Esq. deceased.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry a list of the persons so nominated to the Senate.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to Daniel Clarke, the sum of 2,596*l.* 1*s.* with the interest which shall be due thereon, being the amount of two of the bills drawn by the said Clarke on the Executive, and accepted by the Governor and Council, on the 2d day of December 1782, out of that part of the money arising from the taxes of the year 1782, which was set apart for the debts of the State agent, when the same shall come into his hands.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to ascertain the mode of obtaining grants to certain lands on the western waters,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clendinnen do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two resolutions, respecting certain sheriffs, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and disagreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the sheriffs of the several counties within this Commonwealth, against whom judgments have been obtained in the General Court, for their deficiency of the public taxes, shall be, and they are hereby empowered and allowed to pay into the public treasury any money, tobacco, civil list or interest warrants, by them actually received or collected in discharge of taxes, on or before the last day of August, in the present year, towards discharging such judgments.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all civil list warrants and interest warrants, due upon military certificates, ought hereafter to be received by the treasurer from the sheriffs of the several counties within this Commonwealth, in discharge of the several taxes imposed by the act of Assembly, entitled “an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act,” without such sheriffs making oath that such warrants have been bona fide received by them in discharge of such taxes.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for allowing William Nelson a bounty in lands. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to amend the act, ‘for appropriating the public revenue;’” and that Mr. Henderson do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill “to amend the act, ‘for appropriating the public revenue;’” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, “to amend the act, ‘for appropriating the public revenue;’” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, immediately.

The House accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House upon the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. White reported, that the committee had, according to order had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

And the question being put, that the bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the account of Messrs. Nicolson and Prentis, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the account of Messrs. Nicolson and Prentis, for printing the Journals and resolutions of the Senate, amounting to 84*l.* 19*s.* is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to issue their warrants for the same, to be paid in the same manner as the warrants for the salary of the public printer.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for surveying and apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois regiment, and establishing a town within the said grant,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be, and they are hereby authorised to retain the additional clerks



in their office, until the next session of Assembly, if in their opinion, the public business shall so long require their services; and that they be also empowered to employ a person to execute the menial duties in the office until the meeting of the next Assembly, with an allowance of two pounds per month, to be paid by the treasurer upon the auditor's warrants out of the fund appropriated for the support of the officers of civil government.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have no one to add to the list of persons nominated by this House, to be ballotted for as a naval officer, in the room of John King, Esq. deceased. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of George Booth and William Du-Val, inspectors at Portopotank warehouses, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said George Booth and William Du-Val, setting forth, that being unacquainted with the tobacco laws in the year 1781, they failed to apply in time for their salaries, in consequence of which the auditors have refused to make them any allowance, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to settle the petitioners' accounts, and grant them warrants for their salaries due for the year 1781, agreeable to an act of Assembly, passed in October 1780, entitled "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, respecting the inspection of tobacco.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.'" And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a naval officer for the district of Elizabeth river, in the room of John King, Esq. deceased; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Ronald, Cabell, Southall, Edmundson, Wray and Roane, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom a majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that the committee had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Josiah Parker, Esq.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, all the right of this Commonwealth to the territory northwestward of the river Ohio;" "and to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to give further time for the probaton of deeds and other instruments of writing, and for other purposes.'" And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to revive and continue the several acts of Assembly, for suspending the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" "to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "to amend the act, 'for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees,'" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by an act of Assembly, entitled "an act, for further continuing and amending the act, 'to make provision for the support and maintenance of idiots, lunatics and persons of unsound minds,'" the treasurer is empowered and required to pay annually (for the support of the hospital, which was erected for the reception of the aforesaid description of persons,) out of the treasury such sums of money as should be by law appropriated for the uses described in the said recited act; but the want of appropriating any sum or fund to the said purposes hath prevented the good effects of the said act.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding five hundred pounds, out of the civil list fund, be appropriated to the purposes of the said act, under the order of the Executive, upon the auditor's warrants for the same.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Nelson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

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MONDAY, December 22, 1783.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to each of the members and officers of the General Assembly, the sum of six shillings per day, in part of their wages and attendance on the present session, out of the fund appropriated to the civil list; and also, the travelling expenses of the said members.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the treasurer pay Zenas Tate, out of the money appropriated to the civil list, 2*l*. 8*s*. 9*d*. the amount of his account for repairs done to the capitol.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing pilots and regulating their fees ;' and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the several acts, for regulating public ferries ;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for making the allowances to the officers of the General Assembly ; directing the public printer to furnish a certain number of the acts of each session of Assembly for every county ; and allowing John Peyton to discharge part of a judgment obtained against him by the public in commutables ; with several amendments to each of the said resolutions ; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, allowing John Peyton to discharge part of a judgment obtained against him by the public in commutables ; and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Smith do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, directing the auditors to settle the depreciation of the pay of William Rickman, deceased, and issue certificates for the same ; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the land warrants for military bounties that have heretofore been issued, be delivered to the principal surveyors ; and that the register of the Land Office be directed not to take in any that have already or shall hereafter issue, and give out new ones in exchange.

And the said resolution being read the second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That until the General Assembly shall take further order therein, no treasury land warrants shall be issued, and the auditors of public accounts, the treasurer and the register of the Land Office, are hereby directed to conform themselves accordingly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Edmundson reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several other enrolled bills, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmundson do carry the bills to the Senate, for their examination.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, directing the public printer to furnish a certain number of the acts of each session of Assembly, for every county ; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stephens Thomson Mason do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, for making the allowances to the officers of the General Assembly ; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions :

Whereas, the General Assembly have thought fit in divers instances, to grant by resolutions, certain bounties of land to various persons, as well for military as other extraordinary services rendered the public, and who were not provided for by law, but have not assigned any particular part or tract of country, within which such bounties may be made good, and it is necessary for the preservation of the public faith, that a certain portion of land should be reserved and set apart for the aforesaid purposes ;

*Resolved, therefore*, That all the surplus lands within the territory, laid off by law for the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments, on the east side of the river Ohio, which may be left after such officers and soldiers shall have surveyed their several portions, shall be, and the same are hereby set apart and reserved, for the purpose of making good all such bounties before mentioned, and no part of such surplus shall be subject to any person's entry, location or survey whatsoever, until the aforesaid bounties shall be first satisfied and made good.

*Resolved*, That so soon as the several portions of the officers and soldiers shall be surveyed, the several surveyors shall have full power, and they are hereby authorised to survey the surplus, for the persons to whom bounties as



before mentioned, have been granted, upon the same terms that are specified in the law for surveying the lands given by law to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments; and the Governor and Council shall continue, if necessary, the same number of men in service, for the protection and safety of the persons employed in this business. until it is fulfilled.

And the said resolutions being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor, be requested to write to the Governor of New Orleans, informing him that a bill drawn by a Col. John Todd for thirty thousand dollars, in favor of Elie Toutant Beauregard, has been presented for payment; and upon a fair and full investigation of his claim, it appears that the sum of nine thousand dollars only, is due to the said Beauregard, which sum, with interest, the State is willing to pay him as soon as possible, and to put his claim on as good funds as any the State have; and that the treasurer or Executive, or on whomsoever the said bills are drawn, be directed to give this resolution in answer, in case of a protest.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, be discharged from further proceeding therein.

*Ordered*, That the further consideration of the said petition, be postponed until the next session of the General Assembly.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bailey :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for putting William Hinds on the list of pensioners; for issuing certificates to John Ball; respecting Savary de Valcoulon, agent for Messrs. Coulognac and Company; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of Alexander M<sup>r</sup>Roberts; for allowing a bounty of land to James Innes; for paying a sum of money to Duncan Rose; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of James Markham; for allowing a gratuity in land to Charles Campbell, son of General Campbell, deceased; for making compensation to William Hume, for wounds received whilst serving in the militia; respecting Mayo Carrington and Samuel Jones; allowing the auditors to retain their assistant clerks; directing the auditors to settle the accounts and grant warrants, for the salaries of George Booth and William Du-Val; for paying a sum of money to Messrs. Nicolson and Prentis; for paying a sum of money to Daniel Clarke; directing the public printer to publish the laws of each session of Assembly, within thirty days after the rising thereof; permitting the sheriff of Albemarle, to pay commutables and warrants into the treasury; for putting William Hill on the list of pensioners, with an allowance of half pay for his present relief; respecting the claim of Elie Toutant Beauregard; and allowing the sheriff of Powhatan to pay warrants, in discharge of a judgment obtained against him, and for remitting the ten per centum damages on the said judgment. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the two tenths of the revenue, arising from the tax on free male titheables, and all taxable property included in the revenue law, which by the appropriation act of the last session, was directed to be reserved in the treasury, subject to the future direction of the General Assembly, shall be applied as follows :

For payments of the claim of Charles Gratiot, amounting to 1,463*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* with interest from the 1st day of January 1783; for the claim of the said Gratiot, attorney for Godfrey Linetot, amounting to 1,076*l.* 5*s.* with interest from the 30th of June 1783; for the claim of the said Gratiot, attorney for Nicholas Janis and Vital Beauvois, amounting to 525*l.* 18*s.* with interest from the said 30th of June 1783; for the claim of Francis Bossoron, amounting on his own account to 1,039*l.* 16*s.*; and on account of Bossoron and Company, for 3,894*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.* with interest on both sums from the 28th of June 1781; for the claim of Philip Legrass, for 582*l.* 18*s.* with interest from the said 28th of June 1781; and for the claim of Francis Carboneau, for 861*l.* 18*s.* with interest from the said 28th of June 1781; after payment shall be made (out of the said two tenths) the sum of 2,000*l.* to Thomas Bentley, agreeable to a resolution of the present session of Assembly; and that where warrants for the same have not already issued, the auditors do issue their warrants for the same accordingly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Underwood do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, take order for transmitting and circulating among the nations in Europe, having commercial intercourse with this country, the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship."

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the Governor transmit to the Executive authority of the respective States, the act, "to authorise the United States in Congress assembled, to adopt certain regulations respecting the British trade, and request their immediate attention thereto, and the adoption of similar measures;" that he also transmit to the delegates of this State to the United States in Congress assembled, the said act; and also the acts, "empowering Congress to levy an im-



post;" and "empowering the delegates of this State to convey to Congress the claim of this State to the territory northwestward of the river Ohio."

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendments proposed by this House, to the amendment of the Senate to the resolution, permitting John Peyton to discharge part of a judgment obtained against him by the public, in commutables; also, they have agreed to the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco on the western waters, and at Gibson's in the county of King George," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying a sum of money to Zenas Tate; directing the treasurer to pay a proportion of their wages to each member and officer of the General Assembly; respecting lands granted as bounties by resolutions of the General Assembly, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and to prevent the issuing of treasury land warrants, with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the Register of the Land Office do lay before the next session of Assembly, on the 1st day of their meeting, a list of all warrants issued out of his office upon treasury warrants and pre-emption rights, also, as military bounties for waste and unappropriated lands, distinguishing the same and specifying the quantity of land contained in each warrant, the time when and to whom issued, and also what patents have been obtained in consequence thereof, or by virtue of old entries, commissioner's certificates or otherwise; observing however, to sum up separately the amount of all the warrants issued, and patents granted, since the first day of January 1782.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, to prevent the issuing treasury land warrants; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, requesting the Governor to write to the Governor of New Orleans, respecting the claim of Elie Toutant Beauregard against this State; directing the warrants for military bounties to be delivered to the principal surveyors, and the register not to take in those already issued, and give others in exchange; and directing the treasurer to pay a sum of money for the support of the lunatic hospital. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, directing the Governor to circulate amongst the nations in Europe, the act, "for the admission of emigrants into this State;" for paying Charles Gratiot, Francis Bosson, Philip Legrass, Francis Carboneaux and Thomas Bentley, a sum of money; and directing the Governor to transmit to the Executive power of the different States, the act respecting the British trade. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the resolution, respecting the lands granted as bounties by resolutions of the General Assembly; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the resolution, to prevent the issuing treasury land warrants. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Christian :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the resolution, respecting the lands granted as bounties by resolutions of the General Assembly. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed not to issue any more warrants, for the half pay of officers of the State line, until the further order of the General Assembly.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Drury Ragsdale do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That when this House adjourns this day, it will adjourn to the last day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the auditors to issue no more warrants for half pay to the State line. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Edmundson reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmundson do carry the bills to the Senate for their examination.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and found them to be truly enrolled. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker then signed the following enrolled bills:

*[Here the Clerk omitted recording any further proceedings of this session.]*





# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND.

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE THIRD DAY OF MAY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE  
THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR.*

---

RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

.....  
1828.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF VIRGINIA

AND THE HISTORY OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

IN THE 30TH YEAR OF THE 19TH CENTURY

BY JAMES M. COOPER, ESQ., ATTORNEY AT LAW, OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*BEGUN and held at the public buildings in the City of Richmond, on Monday, the third day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.*

ON which day, being the day appointed by law for the meeting of the General Assembly, the oaths required to be taken by the delegates were administered by the Privy Council to such of the members as appeared, after which, they repaired to their seats in the House of Delegates;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

TUESDAY, May 4, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

WEDNESDAY, May 5, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

THURSDAY, May 6, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

FRIDAY, May 7, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;

But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.



SATURDAY, May 8, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House ;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

---

MONDAY, May 10, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House ;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

TUESDAY, May 11, 1784.

The House met according to adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House ;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

WEDNESDAY, May 12, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Beckley be appointed clerk of this House.

Mr. Richard Lee, a delegate for the county of Westmoreland, then reminded the House of the necessity of proceeding to the choice of a Speaker, and nominated John Tyler, Esq. a delegate for the county of Charles City, as a person, who, in the discharge of that office heretofore, had given undeniable proof of his ability and fitness to execute the duties of that important station; he was seconded by Mr. Strother, a delegate for the county of Culpeper.

Whereupon, Mr. Tyler was elected without opposition, and conducted to the chair, from whence he made his acknowledgments to the House for the honor conferred upon him, and requested their attention and assistance to the preservation of order, and the despatch of public business.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Benjamin Blagrove, be appointed chaplain to this House; and that he attend to read prayers in the House every morning, at the time appointed by a standing order of the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes be appointed sergeant at arms to this House; and that he give his attendance accordingly.

*Ordered*, That William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, John Hicks and William Drinkard, jun. be appointed door-keepers to this House; and that they give their attendance accordingly.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating several matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof.

The Governor's letter was read, and together with the enclosures ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That there be a call of the House to-morrow morning, immediately after divine service.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

---

THURSDAY, May 13, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, Mr. Michael Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Augusta; Mr. Thomas Claiborne, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; Mr. James Adams, one of the members for the county of Campbell; Mr. Matthew Cheatham, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; Messrs. William Pickett and John Marshall, members for the county of Fauquier; Mr. Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Mr. Ralph Humphreys, one of the members for the county of Hampshire; Mr. Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry; Messrs. John Seabrook Wills and Robert Marshall, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Mr. John Heath, one of the members for the county of Lancaster; Mr. Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Mr. Riddick, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; Mr. Daniel Sandford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; Mr. Bennet Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton; Mr. Edmund Ruffin, jun. one of the members for the county of Prince George; Messrs. John Ackiss and Thomas Walke, members for the county of Princess Anne; Mr. Landon Carter, one of the members for the county of Richmond; Messrs. John Bowyer and Hays, members for the county of Rockbridge; Mr. Thomas Towles, one of the members for the county of Spotsylvania; and Mr. Joseph Prentiss, one of the members for the county of York.

The House being informed that Mr. Cheatham, one of the members for the county of Chesterfield; Messrs. Robert Marshall and Wills, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Mr. Riddick, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; and Mr. John Marshall, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Messrs. Cheatham, Robert Marshall, Wills, Riddick, and John Marshall, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Wilson Miles Cary, Jones of King George, Madison, Norvell, Strother, William White, Garland Anderson, Ward, Wilkinson, Sherwin, Wray, Walker and Byne; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be, from time to time referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Mann Page, Wilson Miles Cary, Tazewell, Taylor of Caroline, Jones of King George, Madison, Carter Henry Harrison, Richard Lee, Edward Carter, Norvell, Strother, Samuel Goode, Thomas Smith, and Temple; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place, all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and to compare the same with the form prescribed by law; and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question, touching returns, elections and privileges, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, from time to time to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections, to be heard at the bar of this House or before the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do, either by themselves or their agents, within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members, giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters objected to; and that the sitting members do, by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the lists on their parts to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tazewell, Jones of King George, Wilson Miles Cary, Madison, Mann Page, Taylor of Caroline, Carter Henry Harrison, Strother, Norvell, Edward Carter, Wills, Garland Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, Southall, Wilkinson, John Marshall, Saunders, Thomas Smith, Samuel Goode, Sherwin, Booker, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Cabell, Meredith, Ward, Hawes, William Thornton, Collier, Breckenridge, Markham, Cheatham, Carrington, Pendleton, King, Wray, Roane, Gatewood, Thomson, Richardson, Hubbard, Vanmiter, Walker, Byne, Larkin Smith, John Thornton, Berryman, Richard Bland Lee, William White, William Anderson, Street, Glenn, Corbin, Riddick, Godwin, Armistead, John Watkins, Kearnes, Thomas Matthews, Eyre, Gaskins, Bland, Fauntleroy, Taylor of Southampton, Albridgton Jones, Carter Bassett Harrison, Allen, Langhorne, Nelson, Curtis, Edmonds of Brunswick, Temple, William Dandridge Claiborne, Edmonds of Sussex, Briggs, Bailey Washington, jun. Mosely, and Jones of Dinwiddie; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all propositions and grievances, that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and all propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of the House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Jones of King George, Tazewell, Taylor of Caroline, John Marshall, Carter Henry Harrison, Roane, Southall, Edward Carrington, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Corbin, Carter Bassett Harrison, Eyre, Breckenridge, Edmonds of Sussex, and Richard Bland Lee; and they are to meet and adjourn from



day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters relating to courts of justice, and such other matters as shall from time to time be referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and also, examine whatever laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session, or are near expiring, and report the same to the House, with their opinions, which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Claims be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, William White, Strother, Norvell, Cabell, Garland Anderson, Sherwin, Saunders, Jones of Dinwiddie, Wilkinson, Pendleton, Armistead, Kearnes, John Watkins, Gatewood, John Thornton, William Dandridge Claiborne, Taylor of Southampton, Thomas Smith, and Hubard; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all public claims referred from the last to this session of Assembly, and all matters that shall be from time to time to them referred, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Commerce be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Madison, Jones of King George, John Watkins Kearnes, King, Wells, Wray, William Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, Bland, Berryman, Hubard, Matthews, and Jones of Dinwiddie; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all such matters and things relative to the trade, manufactures and commerce of this Commonwealth, as shall, from time to time be referred to them, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, and also, occasionally such improvements as in their judgment may be made in the commerce and manufactures of the State, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances, seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections, and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to make a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmund Pendleton, jun. be appointed clerk to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances; and Mr. Adam Craig, to the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice, Claims and Commerce.

The several letters and papers enclosed and referred to in the Governor's letter of yesterday; were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond and Lancaster, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a place called Kinsale on the land of Catesby Jones in the said county of Westmoreland, and lying on the river Yeocomico, is from its vicinity to navigation and other advantages, most conveniently situated for a town and public inspection of tobacco; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are much alarmed by an apprehension that the act "for calling in and redeeming certain certificates," which expired previous to the last session of Assembly, and was not then revived, is intended by the Legislature to remain unrevived, in which event great injury will accrue to the petitioners and other public creditors; and praying that the said act may be revived and amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Richard Brooke and James Tuff, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they contracted with the late Fielding Lewis, Esq. for the building of a magazine for the public, on the Gun Factory lot in the town of Fredericksburg, and relying on the well known integrity of Mr. Lewis, failed to require a written contract; shortly after which, and just before the completion of the work, the said Mr. Lewis died, and the petitioners are unable to prove the terms, except by the books and accounts of Mr. Lewis; and praying that their claim may be examined and allowed.

*Ordered*, That the petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Rogers, was presented to the House, and read; complaining of an undue election and return of Albrington Jones, a member returned to serve in this House for the county of Southampton.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to take into their consideration the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating farther matters for the consideration of



the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the public printer be directed to strike as many copies of the requisition of Congress of the 27th of April last, enclosed and referred to in the Governor's letter of to-day, as will be sufficient for the use of the members of the General Assembly.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### FRIDAY, May 14, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

The House being informed that Mr. John Heath, one of the members for the county of Lancaster, attended in custody of the sergant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said John Heath be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, be discharged from reporting from the Journals of the last session of Assembly, the several petitions and propositions then depending and undetermined; and that all such petitions and propositions be delivered by the clerk of course, to the proper committees.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Cumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the late war, and the period of paper money existence, many persons entitled to pecuniary legacies under the wills of their ancestors or others, have by the operation of tender laws been paid such legacies by the residuary legatees, in money at a depreciated state, greatly to the injury of the legatee so receiving, and to the advantage of the residuary legatee, who thereby received a greater part of the estate bequeathed, than was intended; and praying that an act may pass to remedy the same.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lancaster, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying for the re-establishment of the inspection at Dymers's warehouses in the said county, which was discontinued by a late law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the same county, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that an act may pass, to establish a ferry from the land of John Chowning in the said county, across Rappahannock river to Urbanna, in the county of Middlesex.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Mary Ford, administratrix of John Ford, sen. deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that three negro slaves, the property of her late husband, were in the year 1777, condemned and executed for the murder of their master, by the county court of Amelia, and valued in paper money, to a sum which, reduced by the scale of depreciation, is greatly below their real value, but which the petitioner cannot obtain a warrant for from the auditors; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Belsches; setting forth, that there is due to him from the public upon accounts liquidated by order of the Executive, in pursuance of a contract for provisions supplied the public, a considerable sum of money, which he cannot obtain payment of, and being about to leave the State is much harrassed by other persons, with whom he contracted for the said provisions; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Holt Richeson; setting forth, that he cannot obtain certificates from the auditors for the pay and depreciation due him as a major and lieutenant colonel, during the late war, in consequence of a sum of paper money advanced him in the year 1780, for the pay of a regiment of militia then under his command, and which he avers was delivered to the paymaster of the said regiment; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Mary Cross; setting forth, that she acted as a nurse to the continental hospital in Williamsburg a considerable time, and never received any compensation for the same, and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Simpson; setting forth, that he is disabled by wounds received whilst a soldier in the service of his country; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Criddle, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing letters from Messrs. Adams and Jay, two of the American ministers in Europe; and from Walter King, Esq. of Bristol, in the kingdom of Great Britain; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the Governor's letter of the 3d instant, with so much of its enclosures as respects finance, and the requisition of Congress of the 27th of April last, the appointment and support of the delegates to Congress, and the definitive treaty of peace, with the recommendation of Congress thereupon, which lay on the table, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That such other parts of the enclosures in the foregoing letter, as respects the exemplified deed of cession to Congress, and the Solicitor's Office, be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice.

The order of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Heath be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, May 15, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

The House being informed that Mr. Patrick Henry, one of the members for the county of Henry, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Patrick Henry be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Underwood, one of the members for the county of Goochland, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Underwood be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Stuart and Briggs, be added to the committee for Courts of Justice; Messrs. Hubbard and Berryman, to the committee for Religion; and Mr. Henry, to the committees for Religion, Privileges and Elections, Propositions and Grievances and Courts of Justice.

A petition of Mr. Robert Stuart, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is a native of Virginia, and son of Thomas Stuart, formerly of the town of Portsmouth, whose estate was confiscated under the act of escheat and forfeitures; and the petitioner has been prevented from the benefit of the act, in favor of those who became British subjects, by his absence from the Commonwealth while a prisoner with the enemy, and other good causes; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Applewhite; setting forth, that he is a native of Virginia, which he left several years before the war and went to Barbadoes, to transact some commercial business, intending to return; that during his absence he has uniformly befriended the cause of his country in the late war, and aided it with military supplies at great personal risk, and is now much surprised to find that his estate in Virginia, has been confiscated under the act of escheat and forfeiture; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Warwick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the present neglected state of religion and morality, they conceive a general assessment would greatly contribute to restore and propagate the holy christian religion; and praying that an act may pass for an assessment upon all titheables, for the support of religion.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and agreed to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, for better regulating the appointment and attendance of delegates, to represent this state in Congress, and making provision for their support.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several acts of Assembly, constituting the Courts of Appeals, High Court of Chancery, General Court and Court of Admiralty, ought to be revised and amended.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Taylor of Caroline, Jones of King George, Henry and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the second resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to draw up an address to his excellency General Washington, expressive of the thanks and gratitude of the House of Delegates for his unremitting zeal and services in the cause of liberty; congratulating him on his return to his native country, and the exalted pleasures of domestic life.

And a committee was appointed of Messrs. Ronald, Mann Page, Hubbard, Madison, Henry, Tazewell, Heath, Roane, Taylor of Caroline, Cary and Corbin.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the same committee, to consider and report what further measures may be necessary for perpetuating the gratitude and veneration of his country, to General Washington.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting the claim of James Belsches against the State; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Claims.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next. And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

### MONDAY, May 17, 1784.

Another member having taken the oaths required by law, took his seat in the House.

The House being informed that Mr. Daniel Sandford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; and Mr. John Hays, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Daniel Sandford and John Hays, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A petition of John Austin, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he served several years as a soldier, during the last war against the French and Indians, and in the late war with the British, and is in consequence of the fatigues and hardships of a military life, rendered incapable of procuring a livelihood; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Joseph Francis Perrault, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the late war his deceased father and himself, who were then residents of Illinois, disposed of their estates and property in that country, for the sole purpose of furnishing supplies to the troops of this Commonwealth in their expedition there, and accepted bills on this government for the amount of such advances; that the petitioner in a further attempt to serve this country was taken prisoner by the Indians, and suffered every cruelty except death from their barbarity, and being delivered to the British was detained a prisoner by them upwards of four years, until discharged by the treaty of peace, when, he now finds himself destitute and in distress; and praying that his claim may be inquired into, and relief granted him.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House then, according to the order of the day, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### TUESDAY, May 18, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thompson have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Thomas Mann Randolph, for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and that Messrs. Mann Page, Henry, Carter Henry Harrison, Ronald, Madison, Taylor, Cary, Joseph Jones, Carrington, Tazewell and Nicholas, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Joseph Jones reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1780, entitled "an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and expired in the month of March last, ought to be revived, explained and amended.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and expired on the 1st day of December last, ought not to be revived.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Common-



wealth," which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service," which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire on the 1st day of June next, ought to be further continued.

5. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, concerning pensioners," which will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to suspend in part, the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, for reducing the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act, for a limited time;' and that Messrs. Ronald, Mann Page, Matthews, and Richard Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Travis Tucker, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was proprietor of a valuable house in the borough of Norfolk, when that place was burnt by order of the Convention in 1776; that it was afterwards valued by the commissioners appointed for that purpose, but was by mistake omitted in the general return made by them to a former Assembly, by which means he received no compensation for his said loss; and praying relief.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of William Finnie, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the time he acted as deputy quarter-master general in the southern department, he purchased of Mr. Robert Gilbert, at the request of the Board of War, one hundred and four pair of boots, for the purpose of equipping a corps of cavalry under the command of Colonels Baylor and White, which was then on its march to the southward; that although it was well known that the said purchase was made on behalf of the public, the said Gilbert some time in the year 1782, brought a suit against the petitioner for the payment of the purchase money, and has recovered a judgment against the petitioner, who is now actually in execution for the same; and praying that the said debt may be paid by the public, and that provision may be made for the settlement of other claims of the same nature.

*Ordered,* That the petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of John Rogers, to them referred, complaining of an undue election and return of Mr. Albrington Jones, to serve as a delegate in this present General Assembly for the county of Southampton, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the examination of the witnesses touching the subject matter of the said petition, be taken by Thomas Edmonds, Richard Kello and Nicholas Maggot, gentlemen, or any two of them; and that they return the depositions they shall take, before the 18th day of June next.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petitioner and sitting member deliver each to the other, within twelve days, the lists directed to be given by the order of the House, respecting controverted elections; and that the petitioner within the same period deliver to the sitting member a specification of the other charges contained in the said petition, extending to times, places and persons.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petitioner give the sitting member five days notice of the time and place when and where he intends to examine, and that the sitting member do the like to the petitioner.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition be deferred to the said 18th day of June next.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, May 19, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

The House being informed that Mr. Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; and Mr. Thomas Claiborne, one of the members for the county of Brunswick, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Thursday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Francis Peyton and Thomas Claiborne, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy, within this Commonwealth;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington, be added to the committee of Claims; Mr. Wood, to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances; Messrs. Russell and Barbour, to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; Messrs. Randolph, Breckenridge and Stuart, to the committee for Religion; and Mr. Peyton, to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A petition of Richard Winston, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in pursuance of a proclamation of the commissioners for settling the western accounts, he set off with his accounts and vouchers for the place appointed for their meeting, but by the inclemency of the weather and his bad state of health, was prevented reaching it in time, so that his claim is not yet liquidated; and praying that the same may be done, and provision made for the payment of the balance which shall be found due him.

Also, a petition of William Barrett; setting forth, that being a captain in the 3d regiment of dragoons commanded by Col. Baylor, he received at the battle of Guilford courthouse, a dangerous wound in his hip, which, in a great measure, deprives him of the power of any exercise or business; and praying that the same compensation may be extended to him, which has heretofore been granted to others in a similar situation.

Also, a petition of Thomas Underwood; setting forth, that being sheriff of the county of Goochland, in the year 1781, he attended in due time at the treasury with the paper money and certificates, for the discharge of the public taxes of that year; that the multiplicity of business prevented a settlement at that time, and he left them in the office, where they were soon after adjusted in his absence, and the paper money placed to his credit, but the certificates were returned; that he has since tendered them to the county courts, in pursuance of the act, for adjusting claims of that nature, who have referred him to the General Assembly; and praying that this House may grant him such relief as the nature of his case requires.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the alteration of the eighth of the articles of the confederation and perpetual union, proposed by the United States in Congress assembled, on the 18th of April 1783, ought to be acceded to by this State.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That measures ought to be forthwith taken by this State, for obtaining and transmitting the information required from it by the United States in Congress assembled, in their act of February 7th, 1783.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, required for the year 1784 by the United States in Congress assembled, from this State, as three fourths of its arrears due on their requisition of eight millions of dollars, made October 30 1781, ought to be provided, to be appropriated to the uses, and under the preferences stated in their act of 1783.

Whereas, considerable time may elapse before the common debts of the confederacy can be apportioned by the rule proposed to be substituted in place of the 8th article of the confederation, in case such rule shall be established, or by the rule prescribed in the said article, in case the change shall be disagreed to, and before the accounts subsisting between the United States and the individual States, can be finally liquidated;

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That for the intermediate preservation of justice and the national character, all requisitions which may from time to time be made by the United States in Congress assembled, for the purpose of discharging the national debts incurred during the war, or defraying the ordinary civil expenses of government, including a provision for the support of the present marine and military establishments directed by Congress, and which may be apportioned on the States, either by the rule which has heretofore prevailed, or by such other temporary rule as may be judged more equitable, ought to be complied with.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to urge in Congress, all measures necessary for accelerating a fair and final settlement of the accounts subsisting between the United States and individual States; and that whenever such settlement shall have been completed, a payment of the balance appearing therefrom to be due, ought to be enforced, if necessary, by such distress

on the property of the defaulting States or of their citizens, as by the United States in Congress assembled, may be deemed adequate and most eligible.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That in case such final settlement be obstructed by a failure of the proposition for changing the eighth article of confederation, and the refusal or unreasonable delay in the States to furnish the materials requisite for carrying the said article into effect, the United States in Congress assembled, will be justified in proceeding to estimate the relative ability of the several States according to the best lights of which they can avail themselves; to apportion the public debts, by the standard which may thence result; to close the accounts between the United States and individual States; and to enforce in manner aforesaid, the payment of all arrears which may be found due.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the United States in Congress assembled, ought to be invested with power for the term of fifteen years, to prohibit any goods, wares or merchandize from being imported into or exported from any of the States, in vessels belonging to or navigated by the subjects of any power with whom these States shall not have formed treaties of commerce, and with a further power for the like term of fifteen years of prohibiting the subjects of any foreign State, Kingdom or Empire, unless authorised by treaty, from importing into the United States, any goods, wares or merchandize which are not the produce or manufacture of the dominions of the sovereign whose subjects they are: *Provided,* that to all acts of the United States in Congress assembled, in pursuance of the above powers, the assent of nine States be necessary.

The 1st, 2d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th resolutions, being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution, being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d and 7th resolutions; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Madison, Henry, Jones of King George, John Marshall, Breckenridge and Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, May 20, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Madison be added to the committee for Courts of Justice; and Mr. Wall to the committee for Religion.

The House being informed that Mr. Bennet Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said Bennet Tompkins be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was read the second time; and on the question being put, that the said bill be engrossed and read the third time,

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 40.

Noes, 45.

*Resolved,* That the bill be rejected.

On a motion made by Mr. Cary, and seconded by Mr. Heath;

*Ordered,* That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, jun. Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, John Trigg, Thomas Claiborne, John Ward, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, George Wray, Spencer Roane, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Smith, James Hubard, Thomas Underwood, Isaac Vanmire, Robert Marshall, Edmund Byne, John Heath, John Berryman, John Glenn, William Randolph, Benjamin Wilson, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, Daniel Sandford, Lytleton Eyre, Thomas Gaskins, jun. John Thornton, Edward Bland, John Fauntleroy, John Hays, John Taylor of Southampton, Bailey Washington, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, Wilson Miles Cary, Richard Lee, James Montgomery and Thomas Matthews.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Nicholas, Samuel Harvey, John Taylor of Caroline, Jacob Morton, Thomas Collier, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, William Gatewood, John Marshall, John Mosby, John Crittenden, James Wood, James Wall, Badle Patterson, Garland Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, John Scasbrook Wills, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Peyton, William White, William Anderson, Anthony Street, Samuel Goode, John Breckenridge, William Armistead, John Kearnes, James Madison, William Mayo, Mann Page, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, John Howell Briggs and William Russel.

A bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy, within this Commonwealth,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.



A bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for giving further time to the holders of paper money to have the same funded;" and that Messrs. Henry, Briggs and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Mary Cross, setting forth, that from the establishment of the continental hospital in Williamsburg, she was appointed nurse thereto, and continued to act in that character until the last of July 1781; that she regularly received her pay until the first of August 1779, since which time no remittances have been made the director general, whereby the sum of 114*l.* 10*s.* remains due to her for the services of herself and an assistant, whom she was authorised to employ at 40*s.* per month, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to grant a certificate to the petitioner, for the said sum of 114*l.* 10*s.* to be paid in like manner as military certificates are; and that the same be charged to the continent.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Travis Tucker, setting forth, that in the year 1776, the petitioner was possessed of a valuable house situate in the borough of Norfolk, which was amongst others destroyed by the American troops then stationed there; that the commissioners appointed to ascertain the losses of the inhabitants of the said borough, valued the petitioner's said house to 930*l.* but by some accident neglected to enter the same in their general return to a former Assembly, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to grant a certificate to the petitioner for the said sum of 930*l.* being the valuation of his house.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Mary Ford, administratrix of her late husband John Ford, setting forth, that in the year 1777, her said husband John Ford was murdered by three of his negro slaves, for which they suffered death agreeable to the judgment of the court of Amelia county; that the said slaves were valued in paper money, which if reduced by the scale of depreciation, will be greatly below their value; and praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed to allow her a further sum, in addition to the said valuation, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Barrell, praying that compensation may be made him in consideration of a gun-shot wound, which he received at the battle of Guilford courthouse in the year 1781, and which has deprived him of the power of exercise or labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half the pay of a captain of dragoons for life; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews, be added to the committee of Claims; Mr. Ronald, to the committee of Commerce; and Mr. Trigg, to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the 1st, 4th, 5th and 6th resolutions, which were yesterday reported from the committee of the whole House, and agreed to by the House, to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the ordinance of Convention, regulating the election of delegates, ought to be repealed; and that an act ought to pass for regulating elections, and enforcing the attendance of the members of the General Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several acts for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections, ought to be revived and amended.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Page, Matthews, Carrington, Stuart and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that Messrs. Madison, Joseph Jones of King George, Cary, Richard Lee, Gaskins, Matthews and Wood, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Joseph Jones reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice; that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a letter from the representatives of this State in Congress, enclosing an exemplification of the deed of cession made by this State to the United States, to them referred, and had agreed upon a

report, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the exemplification of the deed of cession, made by this State to the United States, under an act, entitled 'an act, to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to convey to the United States in Congress assembled, all the right of this Commonwealth to the territory northwestward of the river Ohio, ought to be carefully preserved and enrolled by the clerk of this House among the archives of the General Assembly; and that as a further security for its preservation, he deliver a copy thereof, and of this resolution to the Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, to be deposited among the papers of the Executive.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Jones do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Joseph Jones presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to revive, explain and amend an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, May 21, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'"

*Ordered,* That Mr. Joseph Jones of King George, do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for further continuing an act, concerning pensioners."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Joseph Jones of King George, do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to revive, explain and amend an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of William Finnie, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Robert Gilbert was employed by the said William Finnie, deputy quartermaster general for the southern department, in the year 1780, to make a number of boots for the use of the United States; that having completed one hundred and four pair, he refused to deliver them, unless the said Finnie would undertake and engage to see the sum of eighteen thousand seven hundred and twenty pounds, paid to him for the same, which he then undertook to do; and the said boots were, on the 23d day of August, in the said year, delivered to Captain Thomas Pemberton, for the use of Baylor's and White's regiments of cavalry; that the said Finnie, on the day and year aforesaid, obtained the said Gilbert's receipt for the money, and at the same time gave him a certificate that the said sum of eighteen thousand seven hundred and twenty pounds, was due him for the said boots, and requested the Governor would be pleased to order payment thereof, which should be deducted out of the monies due to the said Finnie at the settlement of his accounts in the month of October, the preceding year; that the said Gilbert did not receive any money in virtue of the said certificate, except the sum of seven thousand pounds, paid him by the said Finnie.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Gilbert hath obtained a judgment against the said Finnie, in the court of Hustings in the city of Williamsburg, for the value of eleven thousand seven hundred and twenty pounds paper, in specie, and hath sued out execution thereupon.

And it appears to your committee, from the said Finnie's accounts against the United States, that they are indebted to him a considerable sum of money.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the memorial of the said William Finnie, is reasonable; and that the sum of one hundred and ninety-eight pounds seventeen shillings and six pence, being the amount of the said judgment and costs, ought to be paid him by the public, and charged to the United States.

The said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Resolved,* That the said resolution be rejected.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend in part, the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, to reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain duties and taxes, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act, for a limited time;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.



A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Monongalia, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences from the great extent of their county; and praying that the three settlements called Tyger's Valley, Buchanan and Westfork, may be laid off and formed into a distinct county.

Also, a petition of Mary Mauden, administratrix of James Mauden, deceased; setting forth, that the decedent died possessed of a considerable estate in lands, and also of some personal estate; that the latter has been long since exhausted in discharge of his debts, but several of them, to a considerable amount, remain yet unsatisfied; and praying that an act may pass, empowering her to sell so much of the said lands as will enable her to discharge the debts still unpaid, and to support her family.

Also, a petition of sundry people, residents on the south side of Appomattox river; setting forth, that they have met with many delays in the inspection of their tobacco, at the warehouses in the towns of Petersburg and Blandford, which have proceeded from the great throng of business there, and the inconvenient situation of the said warehouses; and praying that an act may pass, establishing an inspection of tobacco on the lands of Mrs. Elizabeth Spencer, and her daughter Ann Swann Saunders, in the town of Petersburg.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That a committee, consisting of five members be appointed, to prepare a statement of the public debts and charges of government; for the payment of which, any funds are by law appropriated, and examine whether there is any excess or deficiency in the said funds, and report their opinion, how such excess ought to be applied, or deficiency made good; and that the said committee also prepare a statement of all the public debts, for the payment of which no provision hath yet been made, arranging them under proper heads, and their opinion of the funds most proper for the payment of the same; and that the said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Ronald, Madison, Underwood, Carrington, and William Anderson.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Francis Conway, in the county of King George;" and that Messrs. Joseph Jones of King George, and William Thornton, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Mann Page, and Matthews, be added to the committee for Religion.

A petition of Edward Carrington, and Ambrose Bohanan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the petitioner, Bohanan, was in June 1778, appointed paymaster to the first regiment of artillery, commanded by Colonel Harrison; that between that period and the 1st of April 1780, he received several considerable sums of money, for the pay, recruiting and other purposes of the said regiment, most of which sums stand now charged to the latter of these petitioners; but in some instances to the former, as being advanced at his instance; that they were in possession of the vouchers for the disbursement of the said money, until the month of August 1780, when they were lost with the baggage of the regiment at Campden; that the auditors have refused to settle their accounts, unless they settle for all the money so received by them, which they cannot do, unless their oaths are admitted as sufficient evidence; and praying that the auditors may be directed to consider the same as sufficient proof of the faithful disbursement thereof.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from sundry inhabitants of the county of Nansemond, respecting the scarcity of Indian corn in the said county; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an embargo ought to be laid, prohibiting the exportation of Indian corn from this Commonwealth for a limited time.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Ronald, Tazewell and Watkins, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Anne and Margaret Rose, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Anne and Margaret Rose, praying that an act may pass for emancipating them, agreeable to the will of their late master Walter Robertson, deceased; and also, that the estate left them by the said decedent may be secured to them, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.



Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had further examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the two acts of Assembly, passed in the year 1782; the one entitled "an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions upon certain judgments until December 1783;" and the other entitled "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to repeal so much of a former act, as suspends the issuing of executions on certain judgments until December 1783,' which will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued and amended.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding upon that part of the Governor's letter of the 3d instant, which relates to the forgery of military certificates; and that the same be referred to Messrs. Henry, Ronald, Southall, Carrington, Wood, Russell, Edmunds of Sussex, Hawes, Gaskins, Meredith, Marshall, Smart and Glenn.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting the claim of Lewis Abraham Pauley against this State; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, May 22, 1784.

A bill, "to suspend in part, the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, to reduce the several acts, for ascertaining certain duties and taxes, and for establishing a permanent revenue into one act, for a limited time;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Pendleton and Booker, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Christian Charles de Klauman, praying such bounty in lands as his services in the army may entitle him to, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the same bounty in lands as is by law given to a major.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Lancaster, praying that an act may pass for establishing Dymer's warehouses, on Dymer's creek in the said county, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Lancaster, praying that an act may pass for establishing a ferry from the lands of John Chowning in the said county, across Rappahannock river to Urbanna, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d and 3d resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Jones of King George, presented, according to order, a bill "to establish a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee of five members be appointed, to inquire into the progress made by the commissioners employed in settling the accounts between this State and the United States, and into the difficulties which may impede the same, and make report thereupon to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Madison, Norvell, Wood, Wilson Cary Nicholas, and Hubard.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "empowering the Governor, with the advice of Council, to lay an embargo on Indian corn, for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to lay an embargo on Indian corn, for a limited time;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A petition of Archibald Goode, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that at a very early period of the war, he enlisted as a soldier in the 10th Virginia regiment, in which he served until he was rendered incapable of

duty by a rheumatic disorder, which he contracted during his service, and which has ever since rendered him unable to support himself and family by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Stadner; setting forth, that while he was serving as a soldier in the Virginia line, in the regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Hawes, he received a wound in the arm, and lost two of his fingers in the action of Camden in the year 1781, which has rendered him incapable of supporting himself by labor; and praying to be put on the list of pensioners.

Also, a petition of Francis Carbonneaux; setting forth, that having made considerable advances for the support of the troops in the western country, under the command of General Clarke, he did, in consequence of a resolution of this Assembly, lay his accounts and vouchers before the Board of Commissioners appointed to adjust the claims of all persons in that country, who had demands against the State; that the said commissioners being entirely unacquainted with the French language, and he as ignorant of the English, he was unable to explain his accounts to the satisfaction of the Board, and many of the charges were rejected, which, he trusts upon another revival, will be thought just; that the General Assembly did at their session in June 1783, direct the treasurer to pay the petitioner three hundred dollars for his present relief, in lieu of which he received a warrant on the inspectors at Falmouth, for fifty-one barrels of flour, which has been either lost or mislaid; and praying that his said accounts may be re-examined, and the said sum of three hundred dollars made good.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Roderick McCulloch, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed sheriff of Amherst county, in the year 1783; that the collection of the public taxes for the year 1782, not having been made by his predecessor, he cheerfully undertook the same, and collected the whole, except a balance of three hundred and eighteen pounds, for which a judgment has been obtained against him with ten per centum damages; and praying that the said damages may be remitted.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they consider the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1779, "for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, 'prescribing the method of proving book debts,'" as highly injurious to the commerce of this country, by discouraging that credit without which, it never can be carried on in an extensive degree; and praying that the same may either be repealed or amended.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed, on behalf of themselves and others; setting forth, that in the month of March last, the tobacco warehouses at Rocky Ridge, were accidentally destroyed by fire, and the greatest part of the tobacco therein, the property of the petitioners and others, was totally lost; and praying that the value of the said tobacco may be paid them, and the warehouses rebuilt at public expense.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "to revive, explain and amend an act, 'for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, May 24, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend in part, the operation of an act, entitled "an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act, for a limited time;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to suspend in part the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act, for a limited time.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to establish a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third.

A bill, "for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A petition of John McAdam, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed an officer in the fifth Virginia regiment, in the year 1776, in which he served until September 1778, and by an arrangement which then took place in the army, was considered as a supernumerary; that in the year 1780, he accepted of the command of a troop of horse, which he retained until the siege of York; and praying that such bounty in lands may be granted to him, as in the opinion of the House shall seem reasonable.

Also, a petition of Isham Keith; setting forth, that he was appointed an officer in the first minute battalion in

the year 1775, and in the Spring following, a lieutenant in the third Virginia regiment; that he continued in actual service until the close of the campaign in 1777, during which he contracted a violent rheumatic disorder, which then compelled him to leave the army; and praying that such a bounty in lands may be granted to him as his services merit.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to lay an embargo on Indian corn, for a limited time;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Taylor of Caroline, reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "to revive, explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, May 25, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to establish a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to establish a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to lay an embargo on Indian corn for a limited time;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to lay an embargo on Indian corn for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration such improvements as in their judgment may be made in the commerce and manufactures of this State, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That inspections ought to be established at Norfolk and Portsmouth, for ascertaining the quality of the various kinds of lumber, which may in future be exported from those ports.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Commerce do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Jones of King George, presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to confirm to Anne and Margaret Rose their freedom and interest, under the will of Walter Robertson, deceased;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing the solicitor's statement of the taxes for the years 1782 and 1783, and a statement of the balances due to the public from the county lieutenants under the recruiting law; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Richard Hill, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that at a very early period of the war, he stepped forth in the service of his country as a volunteer and minute man; that in January 1777, he was appointed an officer in the first regiment of artillery in which he served until May 1779, when his ill state of health compelled him to resign his commission; that he has since served as a volunteer in all invasions of this State; and praying that such a bounty in lands may be allowed him as his services entitle him to.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to revive, explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.



*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Joseph Francis Perrault, to them referred.

A petition and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that prosecutions have been commenced against sundry of the petitioners by the Attorney General, for the proceedings had in the said county against a certain Joseph Williamson, a British subject, in the year 1783; that the said Williamson is a most obnoxious refugee, and came into the said county, where his character and conduct were justly detested, at a time when the existing laws of the State, and a proclamation of the Executive expressly inhibited the return of persons in his situation, but in virtue of a permission from the Governor, to authorise which the petitioners knew of no law, the said Williamson claimed such permission; that the petitioners and other respectable inhabitants of the county, firm friends to their country and its laws; thereupon, admonished the said Williamson to depart in a peaceable manner; but by a contemptuous refusal so to do, they proceeded to tar and feather, and expel him the county. And for this proceeding the said prosecution is commenced; and they are informed by the Attorney General, ex-officio, that the petitioners consider such prosecutions as repugnant to the principles of liberty, and if permitted, tending to punish men who have been solely actuated by a strict adherence to the principles of the revolution, and a firm attachment to their country and its laws; while an irregular execution of those laws which produced the admission of the said Williamson, and which the petitioners consider as repugnant to the bill of rights, is suffered to pass unnoticed; and praying the interference of the Legislature in their behalf.

Also, a representation of the inspectors of the several warehouses at Petersburg and Blandford, stating sundry facts relative to the said warehouses.

*Ordered*, That the said petition and representation be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of James Barbour, late county lieutenant of Culpeper, was presented to the House, and read; praying that he may be relieved from the burthen of the collection of the tax imposed for the purpose of recruiting the army of the United States; and that the sheriff of the said county may be directed to make the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "for regulating the appointment of the delegates to Congress," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, May 26, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Towles, one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Towles be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "to confirm to Anne and Margaret Rose, their freedom and interest, under the will of Walter Robertson, deceased;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A petition of John Wilson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the year 1776, and has served ever since that period in this State's quota of troops, but having had the misfortune, upon his return home to lose his discharge, he has not been able to procure his bounty in lands; and praying that the same may be granted to him.

Also, a petition of John Morton; setting forth, that having acquired a right of pre-emption of 1,000 acres of land, he applied to the treasury for a pre-emption warrant, but was informed that a resolution of the General Assembly at their last session, had forbidden the issuing of any more treasury land warrants until their farther order; and praying that he may be permitted to receive such warrant.

Also, a petition of James Chaplain; setting forth, that having purchased sundry pre-emption rights to lands on the western waters, he sent the certificates to the auditor's office, and paid the treasurer the sum due for the warrants, which were however, by some mistake omitted to be taken out; and praying that the treasurer may be directed to issue the same.

Also, a petition and representation of the inspectors of tobacco at Rockey Ridge; setting forth, that the warehouses with the greatest part of the tobacco therein, and all their books as far back as the year 1780, were in the month of March last, accidentally destroyed by fire; that with the assistance of several persons they saved a considerable quantity of tobacco, part of which they have agreed to give the persons concerned in saving the same; that they have since procured private warehouses for the reception of the tobacco saved, and have been at considerable expense in removing the same; and that by the loss of their books, they are incapacitated from settling with the treasurer, and many of the merchants, some of whom have shipped tobacco, and have not yet received manifests or paid the duties; and praying that they may be indemnified for such circumstances in their conduct, as are not strictly warranted by

law, but which they have been induced to take from a desire of remedying, as far as they had it in their power, the evils resulting from the destruction of the said warehouses; and that the individual proprietors of the tobacco so burnt may be paid for the same by the public.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to revive, explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had sundry petitions under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that John M'Adam was, on the 1st day of February 1776, appointed an officer in the 5th Virginia regiment; that he continued in actual service until September 1778, when by an arrangement of the army he became a supernumerary captain; that in the winter of the year 1780, he was appointed to the command of a troop of horse in the county of Northumberland; that he performed the duties of a captain in suppressing of riots, taking up mutineers, delinquent drafts, deserters and disaffected persons, and conveying them to Richmond, from the time of his appointment until the 30th of May 1782; and that he was upon duty with his troop in Gloucester, upwards of a month during the siege of York.

It appears to your committee, that Isham Keith was appointed an officer in the 1st minute battalion, and was in actual service from the 4th of October 1775 until some time in the Spring 1776, when the battalion was disbanded; that he was immediately appointed a lieutenant in the 3d Virginia regiment, served the campaigns of 1776 and 1777, when his ill state of health obliged him to return to Virginia; and that in March he resigned his commission.

It appears to your committee, that Carter Page was early in the year 1777, appointed a lieutenant in Col. Baylor's regiment of cavalry, and the year following was promoted to the rank of captain, in which capacity he acted until the year 1779, when he resigned; that he acted as aid-de-camp to General Nelson in the years 1780 and 1781.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John M'Adam, praying to be allowed a bounty in land, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the like quantity as is by law given to a captain.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Isham Keith, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the like quantity as is by law given to a lieutenant.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Carter Page, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a captain, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Boteourt, praying that public inspections of hemp may be established, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Tompkins and Hunter, be added to the committee of Claims.

A petition of Henry Sadler, was presented to the House, and read; praying that provision may be made for the payment of a sum of money due to him for a quantity of merchandize, sold to the agent of this State in the year 1780, for which he received a bill of exchange on the agent of this State in Saint Eustatius, which has been returned protested.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that many inconveniences have resulted, from the court day of the said county being on the first Friday in the month; and praying that the same may be altered to the second Thursday.

Also, a petition of John Lee, praying that the register may be directed to give him a warrant upon a certificate for the pre-emption of one thousand acres of land in the western country, which his duty as an officer of this State's line in the southern army, had prevented him from applying for before the register was instructed to issue no more.

Also, a memorial of the officers of the late State's line and State navy; setting forth, that having full confidence in the laws under which the regiments and corps to which they belonged were raised, they always expected to receive the same emoluments with continental officers; and are now much aggrieved by a resolution of the last Assembly, prohibiting the auditors issuing warrants for their half pay; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of the Baptist association, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the distinctions established by law in favor of the Episcopal church, are injurious to the religious of all other denominations, and that they consider the present vestry and marriage acts, as unequal and oppressive; and praying that perfect and equal religious freedoms may be established.



Also, a memorial of the united clergy of the Presbyterian church in Virginia; setting forth, that they consider the present existing laws in favor of the Episcopal church, as creating invidious and exclusive distinctions, dangerous to religious freedom; that in particular, the several acts which recognize that as the established church, enable it to acquire and possess property for ecclesiastical purposes; to celebrate marriages throughout the State, ex-officio; and that the laws concerning vestries, are unjust, unequal and oppressive; and praying that the Legislature will do away all such distinctions, and secure their future and religious freedom upon the broad basis of perfect political equality.

*Ordered*, That the said memorials be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Carter, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he acted as surgeon in the continental hospital from the 1st of July 1776, to the 31st of July 1781, and that he has only received a small part of his pay; and praying that the depreciation of the same may be made good to him, and that he may also be allowed a bounty in land.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, May 27, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to confirm to Anne and Margaret Rose, their freedom and interest, under the will of Walter Robertson, deceased;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to confirm to Anne and Margaret Rose, their freedom and interest, under the will of Walter Robertson, deceased."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones of King George, do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Monongalia, praying a division of the said county, by a line to begin at the fork, on the land of John Goff, thence a direct course to the head waters of Big Sandy creek, thence down the said creek to the Tyger's Valley-Fork of Monongalia river, thence down the same to the mouth of the Westfork river, thence up the same to the mouth of Bigerman's creek, thence up the said creek to the line of Ohio county, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry persons residing on the south side of Appomattox river, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established on the lots of land lying in the town of Petersburg, belonging to Elizabeth Spencer, Ann Swann Saunders and Daniel Wooldbridge, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such part of the petition of sundry persons in behalf of themselves and others, as prays that the tobacco, which was lost by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge, may be made good to the several persons injured, by the General Assembly, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition as prays that provision may be made for rebuilding the said warehouses, be rejected; the same being already provided for by law.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That commissioners ought to be appointed to inquire into, and state the testimony touching the losses sustained by the burning of the said warehouses, as well as the conduct of the inspectors, and make report thereof to the General Assembly.

The 1st and 3d resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution was read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 4th and 5th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the 3d resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts do settle the accounts of Doctor William Carter, late surgeon to the hospital established in the city of Williamsburg, under the direction of Doctor Rickman; and that they pass to



the said Carter a certificate for the balance due him thereon, to be paid in like manner as military certificates are paid.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Resolved*, That a committee of nine members, be, and they are hereby authorised and required, to examine into and state the testimony touching the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge; to examine into, and state the conduct of the inspectors; also, to state the expense of saving, reprising and storage of tobacco taken out of the said warehouses, and make report thereof to the General Assembly.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, Sherwin, Bartlett Anderson, William Watkins, Wood, Strother, Southall, and Taylor of Southampton.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Belsches, setting forth, that upon a liquidation of his accounts for supplying the troops of this State with provisions, agreeable to a contract made with the Executive, there is due to him from the public a considerable sum of money, which he cannot obtain payment of; and praying (as he is about to leave the State) that the treasurer may be directed to make him immediate payment thereof, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitions of John Stadner and William Simpson, praying relief, in consideration of the wounds which they have received whilst in the service of their country as soldiers, during the late war, are reasonable; and that the petitioners ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Archibald Goode, praying relief in consideration of a violent rheumatic disorder, which he contracted whilst a soldier during the late war, and which has rendered him unable to support himself and family by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Matthew Anderson, setting forth, that being a soldier in the service of this State during the late war, he is now disabled by infirmities, from procuring a livelihood by labor, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed five pounds per annum, for the term of two years.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Edward Carrington and Ambrose Bohanan, setting forth, that between the month of June 1778, and the last of April 1780, several considerable sums of money were advanced to the petitioner, Bohanan, as paymaster to Colonel Harrison's regiment of artillery, for the pay, recruiting and other purposes of the said regiment, most of which sums stand charged to him, but in some instances to the other petitioner, Carrington, as being advanced by his orders; that for the disbursement of the said money, they were possessed of vouchers, but unfortunately they were destroyed with the baggage of the said regiment at Camden, on the 16th of August 1780; that they have no mode of settling their accounts for the money so received by them, unless their oaths are admitted as sufficient evidence; and praying that the auditors may be directed to admit the same as sufficient proof of the disbursement thereof, is reasonable; so far as respects monies advanced for the use of the said regiment, immediately out of the paymaster's office, with the main army, between the dates above mentioned.

The 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th resolutions were severally read; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 4th resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2d, 3d and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to revive, explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;' and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an additional duty of one and a half per cent. ad valorem, ought to be imposed on all goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this State, which are now subject to a duty of one per cent. ad valorem; and that the amount of such additional duty ought to be applied to the payment of the

quotas which have been, or may be required by Congress, from this State: *Provided*, that the same shall cease so soon as the impost recommended by Congress shall have been adopted by all the States in the Union.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Ronald, Jones of King George, Cary and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Claiborne of Brunswick, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "to revive and amend the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections."

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Essex, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said petition is reasonable; and that an act of Assembly ought to pass, to prevent the filing of informations by the attorney general of this Commonwealth, under certain restrictions; and that all irregularities committed by any of the citizens of this State on the persons or properties of refugees, previous to the ratification of the definitive treaty of peace between America and Great Britain, should be indemnified by law, and buried in utter oblivion.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Cary reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Warwick, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Warwick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an act may pass, for a general assessment upon all titheables of this Commonwealth, for the support of the christian religion within the same, is reasonable.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Austin, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from a certificate of Col. Adam Stephens, that the petitioner served several years as a sergeant and serjeant-major, during the last war against the French and Indians.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner again entered into the service of his country at the commencement of the late war with the British, and continued until the end thereof; and in consequence of the fatigues and hardships which he has suffered, his constitution is impaired; and also, that he is advanced in years; from which consideration your committee have come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Austin, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, as a sergeant-major.

The said resolution being read a second time; a motion was made, and the question being put, to amend the same by striking out the words "is reasonable, and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners as a sergeant-major;" and to insert in lieu thereof, the words "be rejected;"

It was resolved in the affirmative.

And then the resolution, so amended, being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That his excellency the Governor, with the advice of Council, be empowered, and he is hereby desired, to examine into the several matters contained in the petition of Joseph Francis Perrault, which hath been presented to the present session of Assembly, and after having ascertained the balance due on the account therein mentioned, (if any balance shall appear to be due) to pass to the said Perrault a warrant for the same.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Roger Williamson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed commissary for the garrison at Yorktown, during the time that Messrs. Eaton and Brown were commissary generals for the State; that he was induced while he continued in office, from the sufferings of the troops, and the unwillingness of the people to rely on the public for payment, to pass his bond for the payment of such provisions as the garrison then stood in need of, to one Richard Mackintosh, who has since obtained a judgment and sued out execution thereupon; and the petitioner has been compelled to pay the debt, amounting to upwards of forty pounds and the costs of the said suit, to the great distress of his family; and praying that the same may be reimbursed him by the public.



*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the towns of Petersburg, Blandford, Pocahontas and their vicinity, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from a rapid increase of commerce, the population of the above mentioned places has been much increased, and that it will contribute in a great measure to their future happiness and prosperity, if the said towns were incorporated; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a memorial of the merchants and traders on James and Appomattox rivers; setting forth, that it would contribute greatly to the prosperity of the tobacco trade, and prevent those evils which have resulted from the want of integrity in inspectors, if their salaries were so increased as to induce men of principle and character, to accept of that office; and also, if the emoluments of the pickers were made sufficient to induce a constant attention to their business; that they labor under many inconveniences from the want of a sufficient number of hands attending at the warehouses for the delivery of the tobacco; and praying that an act may pass for increasing the salaries of the inspectors, and emoluments of the pickers, so as to produce the desired effect; and that they may be empowered to appoint a sufficient number of assistants for the purpose abovementioned, and pay them out of the public money in their hands; and that an exemplary punishment may be inflicted on those who shall be convicted of stealing tobacco from the warehouses.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the delegates of this State in Congress and others, respecting the claim of Mr. Beaumarchais against this State; which were read.

*Ordered*, That so much of the said letter and enclosures as relate to the claim of Mr. Beaumarchais, be referred to the committee of Commerce; and that the other part of the said letters and enclosures, do lie on the table.

A petition of Lewis Abraham Pauley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that having the direction of a considerable house in Paris, he was induced by the extensive advances given to the Sieur Penett, by the State of Virginia, to make considerable advances to him of military stores and clothing; upon a supposition, that he would be enabled to comply with all his engagements; but to his great mortification, the bills he received in payment of his demand were protested, after he had made himself liable for the amount thereof: in consequence of which, he was compelled to leave his native country, the credit of his house having been destroyed by their failure; and praying that provision may be made for the payment of his said demand.

*Ordered*, That that the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, May 28, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to revive, explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for pre-emption rights, and returning certain surveys to the Land Office, and for other purposes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend an act, 'for establishing a Land Office, and ascertaining the terms and manner of granting waste and unappropriated lands.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Chesterfield, praying that courts for the said county may be held on the second Thursday, instead of the first Friday in each month, be rejected; it not appearing to the said committee that the purport of the said petition was fixed at the door of the courthouse in the said county, agreeable to an order of the House.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the progress made by the commissioners, employed in settling the accounts between the United States and this State, and into the difficulties which may impede the same, that the committee had, according to order, proceeded to the said inquiries, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears, from the inquiries of your committee, that no progress has yet been made in the settlement of the said accounts.



It appears, from the representation of the said commissioner, that he arrived at this place in September last, and has been since in readiness to receive and examine, both the debits of the State and the demands of its citizens against the United States, but that neither the former nor the latter have been presented to him for that purpose.

It appears, from the representation of the solicitor, who was instructed to prepare a statement of the debts of this Commonwealth against the United States, that he has executed the task, but has foreborne to present the accounts for settlement, alleging, principally as his reason therefor, that as the powers of the commissioner were restrained to the debits which are allowed by the existing resolutions of Congress, he was apprehensive that a partial settlement, disallowing so great a proportion of the expenses for which Virginia expects reimbursement, might detract from her future claim of reimbursement.

It further appears to your committee, that the non-settlement of the accounts between the United States and individuals within this State, so far as the claims of the latter are authorised by resolutions of Congress, has been owing to the provision made by law for liquidating such accounts in common with others, in a mode which makes the Commonwealth debtor to such individuals, and invests it with the claims of the latter against the United States:

*Whereupon, resolved, that it is the opinion of your committee,* That the solicitor be instructed to submit forthwith to the commissioner aforesaid, all the accounts and claims whatever of this Commonwealth against the United States, which he may be authorised by resolutions of Congress, to liquidate; that the said solicitor support the same by the best proofs and vouchers, which the cases may respectively admit; and that he prepare a statement under proper heads and descriptions, of all such claims as are not yet allowed by resolutions of Congress, and lay the same before the General Assembly, at their next session.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Madison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That Mr. White have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Friday next; Mr. Hubard, until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Edward Carter, until Thursday se'nnight.

A petition of John Webb, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed paymaster and clothier to the State navy, and had settled all his accounts with the auditors for his disbursements, except for a quantity of goods, which were destroyed in the year 1781, by the troops under Lord Cornwallis at the Point of Fork, and which they have refused to allow in his said accounts; and praying that the same may be placed to his credit.

Also, a petition of Thomas Gist; setting forth, that he was an officer in the regiment commanded by General Washington, in the year 1758, and was, in consideration of his being wounded and made prisoner by the Indians, in the year 1763, allowed by the General Assembly an annuity of forty pounds per annum, for life, which he has received regularly until the year 1779, since which, the Journal of the House of Burgesses having been destroyed, the auditors do not think themselves authorised to grant him a warrant for his arrearages, and to continue his annual allowance; and praying relief.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Walter Baker, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has acquired a right to the pre-emption of a tract of land in the county of Lincoln, but finds himself precluded by a resolution of the last Assembly, from obtaining a warrant for the same; and praying that the register may be directed to issue the same.

Also, a petition of Patrick Doran, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of William Murray; setting forth, that very early in the year 1776, he received an appointment in the regular army, in which he continued until the situation of his private affairs compelled him to resign; and praying that he may be allowed such a bounty in lands, as in the opinion of this House his services merit.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Hanover and Henrico; setting forth, that the dividing line between the counties is the main run of Chickahominy Swamp, the frequent alterations and stoppages of which have been productive of many inconveniences to the petitioners, proprietors of lands on the said swamp; and praying that the said line may be ascertained and established in such manner, as to this House shall appear just and right.

Also, a petition of James Coleman, William Lane and Thomas Respass; praying that they may be permitted to pay into the treasury, a balance of paper money which they received as commissioners of the tax for the county of Loudoun, under an act passed in the year 1780, and which remained in their hands after paying the bounties of the soldiers in that county.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, for regulating the appointment of the delegates to Congress; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the said report be received to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all ships and other vessels trading to this Commonwealth from foreign parts, ought to be restricted from entering certain ports for lading and unlading.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Henry, Madison, Ronald, William Anderson, Cary, Jones of King George, Kearnes and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.*

*Resolved, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, be added to the committee of Claims.*

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that there is due to the said Richard Winston, the sum of 1,196*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* specie.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Richard Winston, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants in favor of the petitioner, for the said sum of 1,196*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* with an allowance of two year's interest thereon, at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be paid out of the two tenths of the revenue, directed to be reserved in the treasury by the appropriation act, which passed in May 1782.*

The said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the same committee.

*Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators;" and that Messrs. Nicholas Cabell, Clarke, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Breckenridge, Stuart, Richard Bland Lee, and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.*

On a motion made,

*Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine into the state of the Land Office, and to make report of the situation of the same; and of the profits arising therefrom, since the appointment of the register to the present Assembly.*

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Breckenridge, Stuart, Cary, Thomas Smith, Garland Anderson, Matthews, John Watkins, Jones of King George, Kearnes, and Bartlett Anderson.

*Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "directing the course of descents;" and that Nicholas Cabell, Jones of King George, Henry, Taylor of Caroline, Thomas Smith, Armistead, Allen, Matthews and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.*

A petition of Arthur Lee, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1777 he made considerable advances from his private purse to the agent of this State in France, for the purchase of military stores and clothing for our troops; and that upon a settlement of his accounts, a considerable balance was found due to him; for which he received the promissory notes of the commercial agent, part of which only have been paid; and praying that provision may be made for the payment of the balance.

Also, a petition of Thomas Bentley; praying that provision may be made for the payment of the liquidated balance due to him, for money advanced for the support of our troops in the western country.

*Ordered, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.*

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### SATURDAY, May 29, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Tazewell presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Monongalia;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed that William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday, the 13th inst.

*Ordered, That the said William Pickett be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.*

*Ordered, That Messrs. Morton, Taylor of Caroline, Nicholas Cabell, and Taylor of Southampton, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.*

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

Whereas, in pursuance of an act, entitled "an act, for the revision of the laws," a revival of the laws of this Commonwealth has been executed with great labor and care, and reported to the General Assembly by the committee appointed for the said purpose: and whereas, it is highly expedient that the said revival should as early as possible undergo the consideration; and if approved, receive the sanction of the Legislature: and whereas, it is necessary for



that purpose, and moreover for the purpose of affording to the citizens at large, an opportunity of examining and considering a work which proposes such various and material changes in our legal code, that the same should be printed, and copies thereof diffused throughout the community:

*Resolved*, That the clerk of this House, be empowered and directed to make out a complete set of the bills contained in the said revisal, as originally reported; and after the same shall have been inspected and approved by the members of the committee of Revisal, or any two of them, to cause five hundred copies thereof to be forthwith printed; that of the copies, when printed, one shall be delivered to each member of the General Assembly, of the Executive, of the General Court, of the Courts of Chancery and Admiralty, to the Attorney General, and to each of the delegates representing this State in Congress; and that the residue of the said copies be distributed throughout the several counties by the Executive, in such manner as they shall judge most conducive to the end proposed.

*Resolved*, That the money necessary for carrying the preceding resolution into effect, be advanced by the treasurer on warrant from the auditors, out of the first unappropriated money which shall come into his hands.

And whereas, no allowance hath hitherto been made to the committee of revisors aforesaid, for their labor and expenses in executing their important trust;

*Resolved*, That the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ be allowed to each member who shall have actually participated in the work, to be paid by the treasurer on warrant from the auditors, out of any unappropriated money which may be in his hands.

The 1st and 2d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the 1st and 2d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be directed to furnish to the continental commissioner of army accounts, such returns and copies, as he may from time to time require, respecting monies, which have been or hereafter may be credited or accounted for, by officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, as having received the same on account of the United States; and that they be empowered to employ an additional clerk for that purpose, as long as may be necessary.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the resolution, respecting the settlement of the accounts of Doctor William Carter, late surgeon to the hospital at Williamsburg, to them committed, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts do settle the accounts of the said William Carter, late surgeon to the hospital established in the city of Williamsburg, under the direction of Doctor Rickman; and that they pass to the said Carter, a certificate for the balance due to him thereon, to be paid in like manner as military certificates.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act of Assembly ought to pass, to prevent the filing of informations by the Attorney General of this Commonwealth, under certain restrictions.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act of pardon ought to pass, pursuant to the prayer of a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, presented to the present General Assembly, for certain irregularities, committed by the petitioners against a certain Joseph Williamson, previous to the ratification of the definitive treaty of peace between America and Great Britain.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that Messrs. Roane, Henry, and Alexander White, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that Messrs. Roane, Taylor of Caroline, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Temple and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the Attorney General, respecting the claim of Sincob Naltram against this State; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of Arthur Graves and Benjamin Beasley, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have not received their salaries as inspectors of tobacco at Warwick warehouse, for the years 1780 and 1781, and the auditors do not now think themselves authorised to grant them specie warrants for the same; and praying that they may be directed to settle their accounts, and grant them warrants for the balances which shall appear to be due.



*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Thornton Taylor, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in May 1777, he was appointed an ensign in the 3d Virginia regiment, and continued in service until an arrangement took place in the army, in the year 1778, by which he became a supernumerary; that he has acted in the capacity of a conductor of military stores, and as a deputy field commissary general of the same, until the surrender of Charlestown; and praying that he may be allowed such a bounty in lands as his services merit.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of David Brown, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a certain Peter Hopwood, who was employed by the petitioner as a schoolmaster in his family, did, some time in the year 1782, commit a rape on an infant daughter of the petitioner, then about twelve years of age, and afterwards by threats and other artifices, seduced her away from the petitioner's family, and prevailed upon her to enter into a pretended marriage, celebrated by one Peter Mishler, who is neither a minister, nor possesses any lawful authority to celebrate the rights of matrimony; that the petitioner is informed that the ceremony was a written form received from a Lutheran schoolmaster, without the use of the ring, without license or publication of banns, and that neither of the parties made the responses, no person being present but Mishler and his wife; and praying that such marriage may be annulled, or such other relief granted him in the premises as his case requires.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, May 31, 1784.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A petition of Philip Rocheblaw, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was commandant at the Illinois, when that country was reduced by the troops under the command of General Clarke; that he was made prisoner and suffered great indignity and injury in his person and property; and praying that his loss of property may be indemnified.

Also, a petition of William Pelham; praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed to liquidate his account of depreciation for pay due him for services in the medical department.

Also, a petition of William Bradley; praying relief, in consideration of wounds received whilst a soldier in the service of his country, and which have disabled him from labor.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Berkeley and Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the present extent and situation of the said counties is very inconvenient to the petitioners and others, by reason of their remoteness and difficulty of access to the courthouse; that it would be of great advantage to the petitioners as well as of general public utility, to lay off a new county from a part of the said counties of Berkeley and Hampshire, agreeable to certain boundaries therein expressed, and to establish the seat of justice for the same at the town of Bath; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect; and moreover, praying that the courthouse of the said county of Hampshire may be removed to the town of Moorfield.

Also, a petition of sundry freeholders of the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the proprietary Land Office of the Northern Neck, may be established by law an office of Record, so as to obtain due faith and credit; that a register may be appointed, and the fees of the said office regulated.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, the advantages and security of an inspection of tobacco at Rust's in the said county of Westmoreland; and praying that the petition for establishing an inspection at Kinsale may be rejected, or that the said inspection at Rust's may be revived and continued.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A bill, "for dividing the county of Monongalia;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House being informed that Mr. John Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Bowyer be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Michael Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Augusta, attended

in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday, the 13th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said Michael Bowyer be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of Martinsburg in the county of Berkeley, and for other purposes;'" and that Messrs. Hunter, and Alexander White, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Matthews reported, according to order, the amendments made by the committee of the whole House on Friday last, to the bill "for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the register of the Land Office; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee appointed to examine into the situation of the said Office.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to examine into the loss of tobacco by the destruction of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge by fire, have power to send for persons, papers and records.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to prevent the importation of slaves;'" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Watkins, Cropper, Corbin and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for establishing county courts, and for regulating the proceedings therein;'" and that Messrs. Heath, Richard Bland Lee, Stuart, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Carrington, Alexander White, Tazewell, Richard Lee, Madison and Breckenridge, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to confirm to Anne and Margaret Rose, their freedom and interest, under the will of Walter Robinson, deceased;" and "to establish a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George;" also, to the resolutions, for allowing Charles de Klauman, a bounty in lands; and for adjusting the accounts of Joseph Francis Perrault. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Brent, and John Bowyer, be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; Messrs. Alexander White and Michael Bowyer, to the committee for Courts of Justice; and Mr. Porter, to the committees of Propositions and Grievances and for Religion; and Mr. Heath, to the committee of Claims.

Mr. Jones of King George, presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the High Court of Chancery;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to regulate the elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly."

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the treasurer, enclosing a list of articles deposited in the treasury, which had been contributed for the relief of the Virginia troops, prisoners in Charlestown; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, June 1, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Monongalia;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dividing the county of Monongalia."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing a High Court of Chancery;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

The House being informed that Mr. James Adams, one of the members for the county of Campbell, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday, the 13th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said James Adams be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for preventing the further importation of slaves;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Berkeley, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; in opposition to a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Hampshire and Berkeley, praying that a new county may be formed out of a part of the said two counties.

Also, a petition of Alexander McClannahan; setting forth, that he was appointed colonel to the 7th Virginia regiment in the year 1775, and continued until May 1778, when he was compelled by illness contracted from the severity of service in the campaigns of 1776 and 1777, to resign his commission, not having served the full term of three years, which would have entitled him to a bounty in lands; and praying to be allowed such bounty in lands as his services may merit.

Also, a petition of the president and trustees of Hampden Sydney College; setting forth, that the funds of the said College are inadequate to its support and the erection of the necessary buildings; and praying that the Legislature will aid their funds by a grant of four hundred acres of confiscated land, late the property of Speirs and Company in the neighborhood of the said College.

Also, a petition of Augustine Seaton, guardian to George Seaton; setting forth, that his ward's estate consists of lands, from which no means can be derived, either for the support of the said ward, or for paying the taxes arising on the land; and praying that an act may pass authorising the sale of a part of the said land, the money arising from which to be vested in the purchase of slaves, and applied to the support of his said ward.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Bush, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that he was a soldier in General Clarke's regiment, and furnished sundry provisions to the troops, his claim for which he was prevented by his duty in the regiment from presenting to the western commissioners; and praying that his claim may be examined and allowed.

Also, a petition of William Bronan; setting forth, that he was an artificer in the public service, and during his time of service was suddenly seized with a violent disorder, which deprived him of the use of one side, and renders him unable to labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Cropper, jun. county lieutenant of Accomac; setting forth, that from the exposed and detached situation of the said county, he was, during the late war, obliged to draw from the public collectors, and expend money by them received for taxes, in necessary supplies for the militia and troops in service; that he was also obliged to expend sums of his own money for the same purposes, and particularly in the care and support of sundry wounded, as well British as Americans, whom he was constrained, being a prisoner with the enemy, to engage for the care and support of; and praying that his said claims may be examined, and the said monies reimbursed him.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the collection of the ensuing May tax be suspended, until the people can have the benefit of another crop to enable them to pay the same; and also, that all the public property not necessary to be retained for public use, may be sold for military certificates in their present depreciated state, as a means of redeeming a proportion of the public debt.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Bibb, Henry, Kearnes, Matthews, Godwin, Southall, Tazewell, Ronald and Langhorne; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, no allowance hath hitherto been made to the committee of Revisors, appointed under an act, entitled "an act, for the revision of the laws," for their labor and expenses in executing their important trust;

*Resolved*, That the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ each, be allowed to the Honorable Edmund Pendleton, George Wythe and Thomas Jefferson, Esquires, to be paid by the treasurer on warrant from the auditors, out of any unappropriated money in his hands.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Jones of King George, and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Roane presented, according to order, a bill "granting pardon to certain persons;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Holt Richeson, to them referred, and agreed upon a report, and come to a re-



solution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Holt Richeson, stands charged on the auditors' books with the sum of 21,000*l.* paper money, which was advanced for the pay of a regiment of militia commanded by him to the southward, in the year 1780.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Mr. William Ryall, that he acted as paymaster to the said regiment of militia, and did receive from the petitioner the said sum of money, the principal of which he paid to the soldiers of the said regiment, and took receipts for the same; that the balance of the money which remained in his hands, together with the said receipts, he lodged with the baggage of Colonel William Glenn, who was then in service.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of the said William Glenn, that at the defeat of Gen. Gates, his baggage, together with a sum of public money and some papers, which were lodged in his trunk by the said William Ryall, were entirely destroyed by the enemy.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Holt Richeson, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to give the petitioner credit in their books for the said sum of 21,000*l.* paper money; and also, to grant him certificates for the pay and depreciation due him as a major and lieutenant colonel, during the late war.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. John Bowyer, Michael Bowyer, and Hays, be added to the committee of Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the commissioners of the two per cent. tax in the county of London, praying that the balance of the paper money remaining in their hands, which they received from the treasury for the purpose of paying bounties under the act of Assembly, passed in October 1780, entitled "an act, to recruit this State's quota of troops to serve in the continental army," may be received from them by the treasurer, is reasonable; upon the said commissioners making it appear to the treasurer, that it is the same money which they had from the treasury.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond and Lancaster, as prays that an inspection of tobacco may be established on the lands of Catesby Jones, in the said county of Westmoreland, be rejected; and that such other parts of the said petition as pray for the establishment of a town on the land of the said Catesby Jones, at Kinsale on Yeocomico, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petitions of divers other inhabitants of the said counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, in opposition to so much of the said petition as prays that an inspection of tobacco may be established on the lands of the said Catesby Jones, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Mary Marsden, administratrix of James Marsden, deceased, praying that an act may pass, empowering her to dispose of so much of the intestate's lands as will be sufficient to support his family and pay his just debts, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Tazewell do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

Whereas, it has been agreed by the United States in Congress assembled, and the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, that the necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by this Commonwealth in subduing any British ports, or in maintaining forts or garrisons within, and for the defence, or in acquiring any part of the territory north-westward of the river Ohio, shall be reimbursed by the United States; and that one commissioner shall be appointed by Congress, one by this Commonwealth, and another by those two, who, or a majority of them, shall be empowered to liquidate the said expenses.

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Friday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of the commissioner so agreed to be appointed on the part of this Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the several resolutions, concerning Archibald Goode, John Stadner, and William Simpson; Edward Carrington, and Ambrose Bohanan; Mary Cross and Travis Tucker; respecting the progress made by the continental commissioner of accounts; for publishing the revival of the laws; and for allowing half pay to Captain William Barrett, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they have agreed to the bill "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'" And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for further continuing an act, entitled ‘an act, concerning pensioners.’” And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts, be directed to furnish to the continental commissioner of army accounts, such returns and copies of papers, as he may from time to time require, respecting monies which have been or hereafter may be credited or accounted for, by officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, as having received the same on account of the United States; and that they be empowered to employ an additional clerk for that purpose, so long as may be necessary.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 2, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. John Ackiss, one of the members for the county of Princess Anne, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday, the 13th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said John Ackiss be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

A bill, “for granting pardon to certain persons;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill, “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for preventing the further importation of slaves;’” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the report respecting Richard Winston, was recommitted, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their further consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that there is due to the said Richard Winston, the sum of 1,196*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* specie.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Richard Winston, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants to the petitioner for the said sum of 1,196*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.* with an allowance of two year’s interest thereon, at the rate of five per centum, per annum.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Two petitions of Bristol Brown and Sarah his wife, James Cann and Fanny Cann, were presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have claims due upon bonds against the estates of persons who left this country and joined the enemy during the late war, which estates have been confiscated and sold for the benefit of this Commonwealth, and the proceeds thereof paid into the public treasury; and praying that the said claims may be paid and satisfied out of such proceeds.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the auditors to settle the accounts of Doctor William Carter. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the resolution, for allowing half pay for life to Captain William Barrett; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. John Marshall, and Roane, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill “to amend the act, for establishing county courts, and regulating the proceedings therein;” and Messrs. Cropper and Parramore, to the committee of Claims.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the exemplification of the deed of cession to Congress, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones of King George, do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Pelham, praying that his accounts for depreciation of pay due him for services in the medical department, may be liquidated by the auditors of public accounts, and certificates granted him for the same, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Bradley, praying relief in consideration of several wounds, which he received whilst in the continental service during the late war, and which have rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed for his present relief, half the pay of a sergeant for one year, and also, that he ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of William McClanahan, late sheriff of Botetourt county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that notwithstanding every effort of himself and deputies, he has not been able to complete his collection of the taxes due in the said county, for the year 1782; that the petitioner believes there is not a sufficiency of specie in the county to discharge the same; and praying that the people may be allowed to pay the said taxes in commutables, and that he may be discharged from the penalty of ten per centum, recovered against him.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That in aid of the funds already established for supplying the public exigencies, the following duties ought to be imposed, viz:

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
On each original writ or subpoena issued from the General Court or High Court of Chancery, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each original citation from the Court of Admiralty, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each original writ or subpoena in Chancery, issued from any County Court or Court of Hustings, - - - - -	0	3	0
On each appeal to the Court of Appeals, - - - - -	0	12	0
On each writ of error, supersedeas and certiorara, issued from the General Court or High Court of Chancery, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each appeal from any County Court or Court of Hustings, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each recognizance of special bail entered, or bail bond or bail piece, returnable into the General Court, - - - - -	0	3	0
On each recognizance of special bail entered, or bail bond returnable into any County Court or Court of Hustings, - - - - -	0	1	6
On each final judgment or decree in any Court, concerning lands, slaves or vessels, - - - - -	0	12	0
On each final judgment or decree in any Court, for a determinate sum of money, - - - - -	1-8 per cent.		
On each final judgment or decree concerning any other property, - - - - -			
On each deed recorded, concerning any improved lot or lots in any city, or incorporated town; for each lot, - - - - -	0	12	0
On each deed recorded concerning any unimproved lot or lots in such city or incorporated town; for each lot, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each deed recorded, concerning any improved lot or lots in any unincorporated town; for each lot, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each deed recorded, concerning any unimproved lot or lots in any unincorporated town; for each lot, - - - - -	0	3	0
On each deed recorded, concerning any other lands; for each 100 acres, - - - - -	0	3	0
On each other deed recorded, - - - - -	0	3	0
On every transfer of a surveyor's certificate for land, - - - - -	0	0	0
On each probate of wills or grant of administration, where lands or slaves are concerned, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each certificate under the seal of any county or corporation, - - - - -	0	6	0
On each certificate under the seal of the Commonwealth, - - - - -	0	12	0
On each admission for Attornies to practice in the Superior Courts, - - - - -	15	0	0
On each license of Attornies, to practice in Inferior Courts, - - - - -	5	0	0
On each admission of Clerks to their clerkships in any Court, - - - - -	15	0	0

*Ordered,* That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for



establishing a permanent revenue, into one act," that they receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the foregoing resolution.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 3, 1784.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Brent be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing county courts, and regulating the proceedings therein,'" be discharged from further proceeding thereon.

Mr. Roane presented, according to order, a bill "to prevent the filing of informations by the attorney general, under certain restrictions;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House being informed that Mr. Joseph Prentis, one of the members for the county of York, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Thursday, the 13th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Joseph Prentis be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "appointing public notaries;" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Jones of King George, and Mathews, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mathews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Savary de Valcoulon, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has obtained payment only of a small proportion of the debt due from the State to Messrs. Colougnac and Company, and is informed by the treasurer that no funds are established to pay the balance; that he has also a further claim against the State on behalf of the same Company; and praying that such further claim may be examined, and funds provided for the payment of the whole debt.

Also, a petition of Alexander McDougall; setting forth, that while a soldier in the service of this State, he contracted a disorder which has deprived him of the use of his limbs, and renders him incapable of acquiring a support by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Jacob Price; praying relief, in consideration of wounds received whilst a soldier in the service of this State.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Bryce, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed an ensign in February 1776, promoted to a captain lieutenancy, and continued until the arrangement in September 1778, when he became supernumerary; that since that time he served to the southward as major to a battalion of militia; and praying to be allowed a reasonable bounty in lands.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates, granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation,'" and that Messrs. Ronald and Breckenridge, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Russell and Wood, be added to the committee appointed to examine into the state of the Land Office; Mr. Hunter, to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Hancock, to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Brent, to the committee appointed to inquire into the forgery of military certificates; and Mr. Henderson, to the committee of Claims.

The order of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for preventing the further importation of slaves,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, June 4, 1784.

A bill, "to prevent the filing of informations by the attorney general under certain restrictions;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the continental commissioner of accounts; also, they do agree to proceed to-day by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a commissioner to settle the accounts of expense, in the acquisition of territory northward of the river Ohio. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the president and trustees of Hampden Sydney College, praying that a tract of land containing about 400 acres, which is now vested in the Commonwealth by the laws of escheat and forfeiture, and which adjoins the said College, may be vested in the president and trustees thereof, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, praying that the act of Assembly, "for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, 'prescribing the method of proving book debts,'" may be revised and amended, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the foregoing resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Thomas Gist, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the Journal of the House of Burgesses, allowing the petitioner an annuity of 40l. per annum, during life, in consideration of his being wounded and made prisoner by the Indians in the year 1763, has been destroyed, and that in consequence thereof the auditors have refused to grant the petitioner a warrant for such annuity.

It further appears to your committee, from a certificate from the treasurer, that the petitioner has at different times drawn from the treasury 40l. per annum, as an annuity, agreeable to a resolution of Assembly.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Thaddy Kelly, that about the year 1774, he was perusing the Journal of the House of Burgesses, and there saw a resolution, allowing the petitioner an annuity for life.

*Whereupon, resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Thomas Gist, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner's annuity of 40l. per annum during life, ought to be continued and allowed to him.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Catesby Jones, in the county of Westmoreland;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Dyer's warehouses;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing a new ferry;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for preventing the farther importation of slaves;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richeson have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Tuesday se'nnight.

*Ordered,* That no petition or memorial be received in this House after to-morrow se'nnight.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for dividing the county of Monongalia." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates, granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the resolution, for making an allowance to the committee of Revisors, ap-



pointed under an act, entitled "an act, for the revision of the laws," for their labor and expenses in executing that important trust to them committed; and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the sum of five hundred pounds each, be allowed to the Honorable Edmund Pendleton, George Wythe and Thomas Jefferson, Esquires, to be paid by the treasurer, on warrant from the auditors, out of any unappropriated money which may come into his hands.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Jones of King George, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "for appointing public notaries;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The order of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle the accounts of expense in the acquisition of territory, north westward of the river Ohio, being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till Tuesday next.

A petition of Mark, Nephew and Son, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that there is due to them in money and tobacco upon liquidated claims, a considerable balance for loans and supplies furnished this State, for payment of which the treasurer is in possession of no funds, and the petitioners are in great distress in their circumstances and credit; and praying an immediate payment either in money or tobacco.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that their church labors under many inconveniences and restraints, by the operation of sundry laws now in force, which direct modes of worship and enjoin the observance of certain days, and otherwise produce embarrassment and difficulty; and praying that all acts which direct modes of faith and worship and enjoin the observance of certain days, may be repealed; that the present vestry laws may be repealed or amended; that the churches, glebe lands, donations, and all other property heretofore belonging to the established church, may be forever secured to them by law; that an act may pass, to incorporate the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia, to enable them to regulate all the spiritual concerns of that Church, alter its form of worship, and constitute such canons, by-laws and rules for the government and good order thereof, as are suited to their religious principles; and in general, that the Legislature will aid and patronize the christian religion.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Lytle, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is entitled to a pre-emption of settlement for land in Kentucky, which, from various causes, he has been prevented from entering, and establishing his claim to; and praying that the same may be now confirmed to him.

Also, a petition of John Thomas, late sheriff of Rockingham county; setting forth, that he has been prevented by the absolute want of specie in the county from making his collection of taxes due therein; and praying that further time may be given to collect the same, or that the people may be allowed to pay in commutables, and that he may be relieved from the damages upon a judgment obtained against him for the deficiency of his collection.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Powhatan, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are of opinion a reasonable and moderate contribution of the people for the support of ministers of the Gospel and the Christian religion in the public worship of God, is essential to the good and prosperity of the Commonwealth; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House then, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That proper measures ought to be taken to compel the delinquent counties within this State, to collect and account for the one eighth per cent. tax, agreeable to the act passed in the May session 1782, entitled "an act, for recruiting this State's quota of troops in the army of the United States;" and that the different county lieutenants, or commanding officers of such counties where particular payments have been made, ought to be empowered to make distress on the property of individual delinquents within their county, for the completion of the said tax; and where judgments have been or may be obtained against any such county lieutenant or commanding officer, execution ought to be suspended, for a reasonable time.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Matthews, Southall and Corbin, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth;

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



SATURDAY, June 5, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Walke, one of the members for the county of Berkeley, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Walke be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for preventing the further importation of slaves,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for preventing the further importation of slaves.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to establish a town on the lands of Catesby Jones, in the county of Westmoreland," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to revive the inspection of tobacco at Dymers' warehouses;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to establish a new ferry;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the act, 'to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates, granted to the officers and soldiers, for their arrears of pay and depreciation,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A bill, "for appointing public notaries;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Hunter presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing the town of Martinsburg in the county of Berkeley, and for other purposes,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements, and the number of people within this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "for imposing an additional tax of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Alexander M'Clannahan, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Alexander M'Clannahan, was appointed a lieutenant colonel in the 7th Virginia regiment about the close of the year 1775, and continued in service from that time in the rank of lieutenant colonel and colonel, until the beginning of the year 1778, when he was compelled to retire from the service for the recovery of his health.

It also appears to your committee, that the said M'Clannahan, some time in the said year 1778, upon the prospect of his indisposition continuing so as to prevent his returning to the army, resigned his commission.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Alexander M'Clannahan, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a colonel serving three years.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, in the consideration of the petition of Thornton Taylor, that he was on the 15th of May 1777, commissioned an ensign in the third Virginia regiment on continental establishment; that he continued in service in that and the rank of a lieutenant until the arrangement of the army in 1778, when he became a supernumerary lieutenant; that on the 26th of May 1779, the said Taylor was appointed by General Knox, conductor of military stores, annexed to the first Virginia brigade commanded by General Woodford, in which capacity he acted until the 10th of April 1780, when he was appointed by Major General Lincoln, deputy field commissary general of military stores in the southern department, under which he acted until the surrender of Charlestown, where he was made prisoner.

It appears to your committee, in the consideration of the petition of William Boyce, that in February 1776, he was appointed an ensign in the continental army, and afterwards promoted to the rank of lieutenant; that by the arrangement of the army in 1778, he became a supernumerary officer; that in June 1780, he was appointed and com-

missioned a major to one of the militia battalions ordered to the southward for the relief of South Carolina, and acted under this appointment until the surrender of the British troops at York town, in October 1781.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Thornton Taylor, praying a bounty in lands, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the same portion in lands, as is by law given to a lieutenant serving three years in the continental army.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Boyce, praying a bounty in lands, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the same portion in lands, as is by law given to a lieutenant serving three years.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "giving certain lands to Hampden Sydney College in the county of Prince Edward;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "granting pardon to certain offenders," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the settlement of Holt Richeson's accounts; also, they do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the resolution, for allowing half pay to Captain William Barrett. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Augustine Seaton, guardian to George Seaton, to them referred; and that the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice, that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for placing William Bradley on the list of pensioners; and respecting the commissioners of the tax in Loudoun county; also, they have agreed to the resolution, for paying the claim of Richard Winston, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and to the resolution, that the auditors liquidate the accounts of William Pelham, with an amendment, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Register of the Land Office, be authorised to employ a book-binder to repair the covers of the old patent books; and that the treasurer do pay the expense of the same, upon the auditor's warrant.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed to prepare an address, expressive of the thanks and approbation of this House, to George Washington, Esq. late commander in chief of the armies of the United States of America, that the committee had, according to order, prepared an address, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed to consider of further means, to express the gratitude of this House, to George Washington, Esq. late commander in chief of the armies of the United States, that the committee had, according to order, considered the same, and agreed to a report thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss, be added to the committees for Religion and Courts of Justice; Mr. John Bowyer, to the committee for Religion; Mr. Towles, to the committees for Religion and Propositions and Grievances; and Mr. Walke, to the committees of Claims and Propositions and Grievances.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the Kentucky country, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the benefits intended them by an act of Assembly, appointing a district court of superior jurisdiction in that settlement, will be greatly lessened by the insufficiency of the salaries of the judges, and the want of funds to provide necessary buildings for the sitting of the court; and praying that certain taxes may be imposed and appropriated within the district for that purpose.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the severity of the late seasons and the scarcity of specie within the county, precludes them of the means to pay the taxes due for the last year; and praying that further time may be allowed for paying the same.

Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Alexandria warehouses; setting forth, that the salaries allowed them by law, are inadequate to their labor and expenses; and praying that the same may be augmented.

Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Falmouth and Dixon's, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the Kentucky country, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that from the particular circumstances of acquiring landed property in that district, they are exposed to endless



litigations and expense; and praying that a court may be established for the purpose of hearing and determining caveats in a summary way.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Nansemond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, setting forth, that they are possessed by grant, in common, to certain lands in the said county, held by their ancestors, which from the consumption of the wood thereon is now no longer useful as common; and praying that an act may pass for dividing the same equally amongst the several claimants.

Also, a petition of the justices of James City county court; setting forth, that the jail of their county is in a ruinous state and out of repair, and that the late public jail in Williamsburg is sufficiently commodious and convenient for the joint use of the said City and their county; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of William Mountjoy; setting forth, that he served upwards of three years in the line and staff department of the army during the late war; and praying to be allowed a reasonable bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Henry Ward; setting forth, that he served as a quarter-master to a detachment of militia on southern service in the late war; and during service, had his horse, saddle and bridle taken by the enemy; and praying to be reimbursed for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

### MONDAY, June 7, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town on the lands of Catesby Jones, in the county of Westmoreland;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act 'for establishing a town on the lands of Catesby Jones, in the county of Westmoreland.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a new ferry," was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for establishing a new ferry."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "granting pardon to certain persons;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, of indemnity to certain persons."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" was read the second time and ordered, to be committed to the committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A bill, "for giving certain lands to Hampden Sydney College in the county of Prince Edward;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of Martinsburg in the county of Berkeley, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements, and the number of people within this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A bill, "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Otway Bird, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Cumberland, praying that an act may pass for relieving legatees, who may have received their legacies in paper money at a depreciated value, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the towns of Petersburg, Blandford and Pocahontas, praying that they may be incorporated with certain privileges and immunities, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Murray, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted, him be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the inspectors at Falmouth, Dixon's and Alexandria, praying that their salaries may be increased, is reasonable.



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Henry Ward, praying to be allowed and paid by the public, the sum of 20l. for a horse which was taken from him by the enemy whilst in service, is reasonable; and that the same may be charged to the United States in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the justices of the county court of James City, praying that an act may pass, authorising them to use the public jail in the city of Williamsburg, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William McClannahan, late sheriff of the county of Botetourt, praying that an act may pass for collecting the arrears of taxes due in the said county, in commutables, to be receivable at the treasury; and that the ten per cent. damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court for a balance of taxes, may be remitted, be rejected.

The 1st, 4th and 6th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be re-committed to the same committee.

The 2d, 3d, 5th, 7th and 8th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d, 5th and 7th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the merchants and traders on James and Appomattox rivers, praying that the act of Assembly "for the inspection of tobacco," may be amended, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, praying that an act may pass, declaring that the proprietor's office in the Northern Neck, may be an office of Record; that Thomas Bryan Martin, late agent to the proprietor may be appointed to superintend the same, issue and certify copies under the seal of the said office, to which due faith and credit may be given with a proper allowance for his services, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Lyttle, praying that his claim to lands on the western waters, from the right of settlement, which he was prevented from laying before the commissioners by various unavoidable accidents, may be confirmed to him, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Chaplain, of the State of Maryland, praying that the register of the Land Office may be directed to issue warrants to him for sundry pre-emption rights, which he obtained certificates for several years ago, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Wilson, praying that he may be allowed the bounty in lands, given by law to a soldier serving three years in the army, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Lee, late an officer in the State line, praying that the register of the Land Office may be directed to issue to him warrants for his pre-emption right, to issue one thousand acres of land duly proved before, and certified by the county court of Fayette, in the month of April last, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry persons residing on the south side of Appomattox river, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established on the lots of land lying in the town of Petersburg, belonging to Elizabeth Spencer, Ann Swann Saunders and Daniel Wooldbridge, is reasonable.

The 1st, 3d, 4th, 6th and 7th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d and 5th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be re-committed to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 6th resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 7th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

The House being informed that Mr. Edmund Ruffin, jun. one of the members for the county of Prince George, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered,* That the said Edmund Ruffin be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, for establishing a Land Office, and ascertaining the terms and manner of granting waste and unappropriated lands," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of John Hunter, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being sheriff for the county of Campbell, he did, previous to the destruction of the warehouses at Manchester, receive sundry tobacco notes on the said warehouses in part of his collection of taxes due in the said county, which have been refused in his settlement at the treasury; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an inquiry ought to be instituted concerning an infraction on the part of Great Britain, of the seventh article of the definitive treaty of peace between the United States of America and Great Britain, so far as the same respects the detention of slaves and other property, belonging to the citizens of this Commonwealth;

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed pursuant to the foregoing resolution.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Matthews, Henry, Heath, Cropper and Parramore.

A motion was made, and seconded, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That so much of all and every act or acts of Assembly, now in force in this Commonwealth, as prevents a due compliance with the stipulations contained in the definitive treaty entered into between Great Britain and America, ought to be repealed.

And thereupon the previous question being moved and seconded, shall the question to agree to the said resolution be now put;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 37.

Noes, 57.

And so the question was lost.

On a motion made by Mr. Henderson, and seconded by Mr. Wilson Cary Nicholas:

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the previous question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stewart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Edward Carrington, George Wray, John Marshall, Alexander White, James Wood, Bartlett Anderson, William Norvell, Philip Barbour, Larkin Smith, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Corbin, John Breckenridge, William Armistead, John Watkins, Littleton Eyre, Bennet Tompkins, James Madison, jun. William Mayo, jun. William Ronald, Thomas Walke, John Taylor of Southampton, Bailey Washington, William Brent, John Allen, John Howell Briggs, Wilson Miles Cary, John Langhorne, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Joseph Prentiss, Nathaniel and Henry Tazewell.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, jun. Thomas Parramore, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, jun. William Meredith, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, George Hancock, Thomas Claiborne, Samuel Hawes, jun. Thomas Collier, Matthew Cheatham, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, John Mosby, Thomas Smith, jun. Batte Peterson, Isaac Vanmiter, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, Peter Saunders, William Walker, John Seabrook Wills, Edmund Byne, John Heath, John Berryman, William White, Anthony Street, John Glenn, John Logan, William Randolph, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, John Kearnes, Ebenezer Zane, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, jun. Edward Bland, John Ackiss, John Bowyer, Gawin Hamilton, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, William Russell, James Montgomery and Thomas Matthews.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prevent the filing of information by the Attorney General, under certain restrictions;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, June 8, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for establishing the town of Martinsburg in the county of Berkeley, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend an act, 'for establishing the town of Martinsburg in the county of Berkeley, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Breckenridge reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Land Office, and the profits of the register, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and had agreed upon a report thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into and state the testimony touching the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge; to examine into and state the conduct of the inspectors; and also, to state the expense of saving, picking, reprizing and storage, of tobacco taken out of the said



warehouses, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the burning of the said warehouses, which happened on the morning of the 26th of March last, was most probably done by one of the pickers, who carried fire into the same whilst under intoxication.

It further appears to your committee, that some days before the said accident happened, there were in the said warehouses and the yard appertaining thereto, about six hundred hogsheads of tobacco, out of which one hundred and sixty-two hogsheads were shipped a day or two preceding such accident.

It further appears to your committee, that 47 hogsheads were saved without damage, and that the further quantity of 79 hogsheads, weighing 89,862 pounds nett, has been reprized and reinspected out of the tobacco saved from the flames, for the picking, reprizing and furnishing casks for the tobacco so saved; it was stipulated by the inspectors of the said warehouses, upon the advice of four magistrates of their county, to give the persons engaged in that business one fourth part of the tobacco so saved, which leaves the quantity of 67,397 pounds in their hands, with an expectation of getting 12 or 15 hogsheads more, when the business shall be fully completed.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of several creditable witnesses, that the said warehouses when burnt, were in an exposed situation from not being properly finished; and that Stephen Pankey and William Fowler, the inspectors, have been generally considered as attentive to their duty, and have given general satisfaction in the discharge thereof.

It further appears to your committee, that previous to the said warehouses being burnt, the inspectors made frequent applications to the court of their county to put the said warehouses into proper order, without being able to effect the same.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said warehouses were burnt by accident, and not through the neglect of the inspectors; and that they ought to be indemnified from any loss resulting therefrom.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the expenses incurred by the said inspectors in storing away the tobacco saved, and for store-house rent for the same, amounting to *£l. 16s. 9d.* ought to be reimbursed them by the public; and that their contract made with the persons engaged in saving the tobacco taken out of the flames, ought to be confirmed.

The said resolutions being again read were, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Bush, a soldier in General Clarke's regiment, praying that an allowance may be made him for sundry provisions furnished to the troops of the said regiment, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of *16l. 9s. 6d.* for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Arthur Graves and Benjamin Beasley, setting forth, that their salaries as inspectors of tobacco at Warwick warehouse for the years 1780 and 1781, are due to them, for which the auditors do not think themselves authorised to grant specie warrants, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to settle the petitioners' accounts for their said salaries, and grant them warrants in specie for the same, agreeable to the estimate of tobacco made by the grand jury at the October General Court of 1781.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of John Cropper, jun. county lieutenant of Accomac, as prays that he may be reimbursed by the public the sum of *103l. 0s. 5 3-4d.* by him advanced and expended, in procuring necessary supplies for the militia and troops, whilst in service in the said county, during the late war; and also the further sum of *190l. 4s. 9d.* which he paid for the care and cure of sundry wounded prisoners, as well British as Americans, which he was compelled to do, being a prisoner with the enemy, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants in favor of the petitioner for the said sums of money.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the public collectors of taxes in the said county of Accomac, may have credit on the auditor's books for the sum of *91,118l. 12s.* paper money, paid by them to the petitioner's orders, for procuring supplies for the said militia and troops, ought to be referred to the consideration of the next session of Assembly.

The 1st and 4th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 3d resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to suspend in part, the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act, for a limited time,'" with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.



The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee to whom the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that all the public lands, (except such as are necessary for the use of Government) may be sold for military certificates, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Henry, Bibb, Kearnes, Matthews, Godwin, Southall, Tazewell, Ronald and Langhorne, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House being informed that Mr. Andrew Donnelly, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Andrew Donnelly be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal an ordinance of Convention, and to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Cary reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several memorials to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Virginia, praying that the laws within this Commonwealth, which restrain the said church from the like power of self-government, as is enjoyed by all other religious societies; and which prescribe the mode of appointing vestries, and the qualifications of vestrymen may be changed; and that the churches, glebe lands, donations and all other property belonging to the said church, may forever be secured to them, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the memorials from the united clergy of the Presbyterian church in Virginia, and the Baptist Association, as prays that the laws regulating the celebration of marriage, and relating to the constitution of vestries, may be altered; and that in general all legal distinctions in favor of any particular religious society, may be abolished, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the memorials from the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal church, and the united clergy of the Presbyterian church in Virginia, as relates to an incorporation of their societies, is reasonable; and that a like incorporation ought to be extended to all other religious societies within this Commonwealth, which may apply for the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Religion do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, respecting William Pelham; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the resolution, for paying a sum of money to Richard Winstou; and the same being read, was amended and agreed to.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prevent the filing of informations by the Attorney General, under certain restrictions;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry merchants and traders in the towns of Fredericksburg and Falmouth, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are informed a petition will be presented to the present Assembly, to repeal the act, "to restrain excessive credits;" which act they consider as a wise and politic one; and praying that the same may not be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Augusta, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from the great scarcity of specie in their county, and the distress for provisions occasioned by the severity of the late winter, they are rendered unable to discharge the taxes due therein; and praying to be allowed farther time to discharge the same.

Also, a petition of James Upshaw; setting forth, that he served as an officer in the late war two years and seven or eight months, during which time he was wounded, and became supernumerary, and afterwards served in the militia; and praying to be allowed a bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Rachel Bryant; setting forth, that her late husband Thomas Bryant, deceased, served in various capacities in the army during the late war from the year 1777, until after the siege of York, and is now deceased, having left the petitioner in great distress; and praying to be allowed a bounty of lands in right of her said husband's services.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting an alteration in the eighth article of the confederation; also, to the amendment to their amendment, to the resolution, for paying a sum of money to Richard Winston; and they do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House to the bill "to amend an act, 'for establishing a Land Office, and ascertaining the terms and manner of granting waste and unappropriated lands.'" And then he withdrew.

A petition of Thomas Bronan was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he served as a soldier during the last war against the French, and also during the late war, and is now unable to support himself by labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William McGuire, late a lieutenant in the first regiment of Artillery; praying that compensation may be made him in consequence of a wound which he received at the battle of the Eutaw Springs, which will render him a cripple for life.

Also, a petition of Delia Barnes and Mary Tripp; setting forth, that their husbands at the commencement of the late war enlisted as soldiers, and were marched to the northward where they shortly after died, leaving the petitioners in great distress; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Pierre Lafargue and Company; setting forth, that in the year 1781, a person authorised by the Executive of this State, impressed into the service a schooner belonging to the petitioners, equipped and loaded for a voyage to the West Indies, with upwards of thirty-seven thousand pounds of tobacco; that they have since received no compensation for the cargo and freight of the said vessel; and praying that provision may be made for the speedy payment of both to the petitioners.

Also, a petition of Colonel John Green; setting forth, that an ardent zeal for his country induced him at a very early period of the war, to accept of the command of a company in the first Virginia regiment, and to continue in the service until the close of the war; that the fatigues of a military life, and several wounds received in the course of his service, have rendered him unable to provide for his large family; and praying to be allowed the half pay of a colonel for life.

Also, a memorial of Thomas Nelson, jun. setting forth, that in the year 1777, he accepted of the command of the militia of this State then in service, and required no other compensation for his services, than that his expenses incurred during his command should be reimbursed; that the auditors accordingly regularly settled his accounts and gave him warrants for the balances, except for his services in the year 1781, for which they do not think themselves authorised to grant such warrant; the memorialist further sheweth, that at the request of the General Assembly, he, with several others, obtained considerable loans of money and tobacco for the use of the State, for which they made themselves liable, relying upon the assurances of that body, that the same should be repaid; but no provision has yet been made for the payment of the same; and praying that his said expenses may be reimbursed him, and that the Assembly will adopt such measures for the relief of those who thus advanced their money and tobacco, as shall appear just and right.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Catesby Jones in the county of Westmoreland;" also, to the bill "for establishing a new ferry," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to suspend in part the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue into one act, for a limited time.'" And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Hay be appointed clerk to the committee appointed to prepare a settlement of the public debt.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Walke be added to the committee appointed to inquire into the infraction of the treaty between the United States and Great Britain.

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding on the resolution and address to George Washington, Esq. to them committed, and that Messrs. Ronald, Page, Madison, Hubbard, Henry, Heath, Tatwell, Roane, Jones of King George, Cary, Corbin, Richard Henry Lee, and Grayson, be appointed a committee in concert with a committee of the Senate, to prepare an address and direct other testimonies of gratitude on behalf of the General Assembly, to the said George Washington, Esq.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for this House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner on the part of this Commonwealth, to settle the expenses incurred in the acquisition of the western territory; and also,



for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to explain and amend the act, for establishing a High Court of Chancery;" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent on certain goods, wares and merchandizes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 9, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent the filing of informations by the attorney general under certain restrictions;" was read the third time; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "to repeal an ordinance of Convention, and to regulate and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A petition of Mildred Holladay, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that her husband commanded a company of militia from Spottsylvania county, which was ordered to the relief of South Carolina, where he was killed at the defeat of General Gates, by which she with her family, have been reduced to great distress; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Binns Jones; setting forth, that he was appointed paymaster to one of the regiments of militia ordered to the relief of South Carolina, and received a considerable sum of paper money; that the vouchers for the disbursement of the greatest part of the said sum, and a small balance of it which remained in his hands, fell into the enemy's hands, at the defeat of Gen. Gates; in consequence of which, he is unable to settle his accounts; and praying that he may be permitted to settle the same, upon oath.

Also, a petition of Robert Church; setting forth, that he was one of the militia of the county of Bedford, which marched into North Carolina in the year 1781, and at the battle of Guilford courthouse received a wound, which has rendered him incapable of labor; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Mayo, jun. was presented to the House, and read; praying that a public ferry may be established from his land on the south side of James river, in the county of Chesterfield, to the opposite shore, in the county of Henrico.

Also, a petition of Thomas Carter; praying that his accounts as a surgeon's mate in the continental hospital may be liquidated, and a warrant granted him for the balance of his pay and subsistence.

Also, a petition of Michael Bowyer; setting forth, that in the year 1776, he was appointed captain of a company of regulars, and continued in service until the fall of the year 1778, when the regiment was reduced, and he retired as a supernumerary; and praying to be allowed such a bounty in lands as his services entitle him to.

Also, a petition of George Robertson; setting forth, that he was sheriff of the county of Chesterfield in the year 1782, and cheerfully undertook the collection of the public taxes for that year; but notwithstanding every exertion, he was not able to complete the same, the people not having then recovered from the ravages of the enemy; that the solicitor has obtained a judgment against the petitioner for the amount of the taxes with ten per centum damages and costs; and praying that the said damages and costs may be remitted.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Kempresville; setting forth, that in pursuance of the act, "establishing the said town," the trustees have laid off the same into half-acre lots with convenient streets, which will prove highly injurious to the petitioners, as most of the houses now built, are found to be in the streets; and praying that the said trustees may be empowered to lay off the same in a manner least injurious to the petitioners; and that the unimproved lots in the said town, may not be subject to forfeiture, for twenty years.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Richard Henry Lee, Grayson, and Alexander White, be added to the committees for Religion and of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances; and Mr. Henderson to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act.'"

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Jacob Wine, a soldier disabled by a wound received in the service, be continued on the list of pensioners.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Thomas Nelson, jun. to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the memorial of the said Thomas Nelson, jun. as prays, that the balance of his expenses incurred during the year 1781, whilst commanding the militia of this State, (the defraying of which expenses was the only compensation he required for his services) amounting to 91l. 5s. 9d., specie, may be paid by the public to Mrs. Jane Vohe, to whom the same is due, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants for the said sum of 91l. 5s. 9d. to be paid by the treasurer out of the first unappropriated money which may come to his hands.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said memorial as respects the loans of money and tobacco obtained by the memorialist and other persons, appointed for that purpose, in consequence of the Governor's address in the year 1780, be referred to the committee appointed to examine into the state of the public loans, due from this Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Francis Carbonneau to them referred; and that the said petition be referred to the Executive, who are empowered to examine the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "of indemnity to certain persons." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for better securing the patent-books in the register's office; and for confirming to John Lee his right of pre-emption to certain lands. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements, and the number of people within this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of the certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Information being given to the House by a member in his place, that John Warden, of the county of Hanover, hath been guilty of a high contempt and breach of the privileges of this House, in uttering certain expressions derogatory to the honor and justice of the same;

*Ordered,* That the subject matter of the said information be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered,* That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody the body of the said John Warden; and Mr. Speaker is desired to issue his warrant accordingly.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill or bills, pursuant to a resolution for the sale of the public lands, be discharged therefrom; and that the said resolution be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle the accounts of expense in the acquisition of the territory north-westward of the river Ohio; and for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for appointing public notaries;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend the act, for establishing a High Court of Chancery;" and "for imposing an additional tax of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, June 10, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements, and the number of people within this Commonwealth;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements thereon, and the number of people within this Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers, for their arrears of pay and depreciation.'"

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the resolution upon the petition of Henry Ward, to them re-committed, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Henry Ward was appointed on the 26th day of April 1781, commissary and quarter-master to the Bedford militia, ordered to the southward, in which capacity he acted until the 25th day of May following, when the militia joined General Greene's army; and that afterwards he continued to act as quarter-master under the direction of Col. Carrington, until the 22d day of June, when he was taken prisoner by the enemy, and thereby lost his horse, bridle and saddle, which were worth the sum of 20*l.* specie.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Henry Ward, praying compensation may be made him for his horse, bridle and saddle, which were taken from him by the enemy, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the sum of 20*l.* for the same, to be charged to the United States in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "giving certain lands to the College of Hampden Sydney in the county of Prince Edward," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.


*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Alexander White, Ronald, Prentis, Matthews, William Watkins, Thomas Smith, Roane, Briggs and Armistead.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from further proceeding on the petitions of John Morton and Walter Baker, to them referred; and that the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing a new ferry;" and  the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for appointing public notaries;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all the public lands except such as are necessary for the use of government, and except also, the lands and houses in and adjacent to the city of Williamsburg, which ought to be given to the Masters and Professors of William and Mary University, for the use of that seminary forever, ought to be sold for money or military certificates.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the lands known by the name of Gosport, ought to be laid off into lots and annexed to the town of Portsmouth.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Alexander White, Page, Kearnes, Grayson, Henderson, Henry and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.



*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the quantity and situation of the public lands, and of such part or proportion of the same as may be necessary to be retained for the purposes of government; and that they report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Kearnes, White, Zane, Ronald, Corbin, Southall, Henderson, Prentis, Henry and Tazewell.

An engrossed bill "giving certain lands to Hampden Sydney College, in the county of Prince Edward," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act giving certain lands to Hampden Sydney College, in the county of Prince Edward."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wilson Miles Cary have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Cropper for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Catherine Helphinstone, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner's late husband Peter Helphinstone, was, at the commencement of the late war, settled in the town of Winchester, as a reputable tradesman, and by his care and industry supported his family in a decent competency;

That in the year 1776, he entered into the army with the rank of major, and marched with the 8th Virginia regiment to South Carolina, where he contracted an indisposition which compelled him to resign in a few months, and soon after put a period to his life.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner is reduced by sickness to the most indigent circumstances, and has four children to maintain, without the means of supporting them.

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said Catherine Helphinstone, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of forty pounds for her present relief; and also an annuity of 20*l.* per annum for the term of five years.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Colonel John Green, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said Colonel John Green, setting forth, that at a very early period of the war, he accepted the command of a company in the 1st Virginia regiment, and continued in service, until the end thereof; that during his service he has received several wounds, which, together with disorders contracted through hardships and fatigue in the course of that service, he is unable to provide for a large family which he has to support, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half the pay of a colonel for life; to commence from the time his whole pay ceased, which took place the first day of January 1783.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of William Armistead, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that being commissary of stores, and clothier to the troops of this State, in the year 1781, he endeavored upon the approach of General Arnold, to remove all the stores in his care out of the reach of the enemy; but notwithstanding every exertion, the movements of the enemy were so rapid, that the whole fell into their hands, together with a considerable number of vouchers for disbursements of public stores and money, without which the petitioner cannot procure a final settlement of his accounts, unless such proof is admitted, where the documents are lost, as he may be able to adduce; and praying that the auditors may be directed to receive such proof and make a final adjustment of his accounts.

Also, a petition of John Ragsdale, late sheriff of the county of Lunenburg; setting forth, that by a resolution of the Assembly, the damages upon a judgment obtained against him for a balance of public taxes, were remitted, upon condition that he paid the principal on or before the last day of January, which the extreme severity of the weather prevented him from doing; and praying that the time may be now extended.

Also, a petition of William Meredith; setting forth, that he was an officer in the troops of this State; and at the action at Camden, was taken prisoner and stripped by the enemy of all his wearing apparel; that his distress whilst in Charlestown, compelled him to contract a debt, for the purchase of a few necessities, which he has since paid; and praying that the same may be reimbursed to him.

Also, a petition of Edmund Webb; setting forth, that he was collector of the public taxes in the county of Brunswick, in the year 1760, and received a certificate of 100*l.* for a horse which had been impressed, which was countersigned by the Governor; that he tendered the same to the auditors, who refused to receive it in discharge of the said taxes; that he has since presented it to the court of claims for the said county; but they also, did not think themselves authorised to liquidate it; and praying that this House will grant him such relief as the nature of the case requires.

Also, a memorial of Thaddy Kelly; setting forth, that he entered into the service of his country at the com



ancement of the war, and continued either on the continental or State line, until the close of it; that he conceives his services merit all those emoluments, which those have obtained who served during the same periods; but to his astonishment, he finds his name omitted in the last arrangement of the State officers; and praying the interposition of this Assembly, and that the reasons of such omission may be inquired into.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and memorial, be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Allen, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has received from the auditors for his services as superintendent of the fort at Woods, a warrant for 129*l*. but as it is not drawn upon any particular fund, he cannot receive either principal or interest; and praying that the same may be taken in and certificates granted to him similar to those granted to the officers and soldiers of the State line.

Also, a petition of Nathaniel Twining; setting forth, that he has at great expense and trouble established a stage coach for the accommodation of travellers from the city of Richmond to the city of New-York; that the profits will by no means make him compensation for his expense, if others are permitted immediately to attempt similar establishments; and praying that he may have the exclusive privilege of keeping the same for a certain number of years.

Also, a petition of James Holloway; setting forth, that he was appointed an ensign in the year 1776; that he continued to act in that capacity, and in that of a Lieutenant, until the arrangement of the officers in the year 1777. when he became a supernumerary; and praying to be allowed such a bounty in land as his services merit.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Peter Hopwood, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that on the 6th day of January last, the petitioner was married to Susanna Browne, daughter of David Browne, of the county of Frederick; that the said Browne disapproving of the marriage, immediately by force took possession of his daughter, and commenced a prosecution against the petitioner for a rape; that being disappointed in his desire of revenge by his acquittal in that prosecution, and also in another, which he immediately instituted against him under the statute of Philip and Mary, he is informed he has presented a petition to this Assembly, praying for a dissolution of the said marriage, alleging that the same is not valid; and praying that the requisitions of the said David Browne may not be complied with.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle the accounts of expense in the acquisition of western territory; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend the act, 'for establishing a High Court of Chancery,'" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per centum on certain goods, wares, and merchandizes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### FRIDAY, June 11, 1784.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing others from the President of Congress, the delegates of this State in Congress, and Gen. Washington; which were read, and ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the resolution of the last session of Assembly, prohibiting the auditors from issuing any warrants for half pay to the officers of the State line and navy, ought to be rescinded; and that the auditors of public accounts ought to apply to the General Court for their opinion of the laws under which the said officers claim half pay, and to issue certificates conformable to such opinion, observing the discriminations which have been made of those officers who, by unworthy conduct, have forfeited their claim to half pay and other emoluments.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Hanover and Henrico, praying that the main run, which is the boundary between the two counties, may be ascertained, be rejected; it appearing to the committee that the lands of sundry persons are bounded by the said run, which boundary ought to be ascertained by a court of law.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the public consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Berkeley and Hampshire, praying that a new county may be formed out of those counties, be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said county of Berkeley in opposition thereto, be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of William Buckner, of the county of Orange, be deferred to the next session of Assembly.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The 2d, 4th and 5th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A petition of Lieutenant Colonel Levin Powell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he entered into the service of his country at the commencement of the war, and continued therein until the situation of his private affairs compelled him to retire, and before he had served the time which would have entitled him to a bounty of lands under the law; and praying to be allowed such a bounty in lands as his services merit.

Also, a petition of Henry Tatem, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Gabriel Maupin, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Andrew Donnelly; setting forth, that being sheriff of the county of Greenbrier, for the year 1782, he undertook the collection of the public taxes for that year; but notwithstanding every exertion, he was unable to complete the same from the great scarcity of specie in that county; and praying that the ten per centum damages upon a judgment obtained against him by the solicitor for the balance of the said taxes, may be remitted.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Fitzhugh, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a valuable negro man, the property of the petitioner, was condemned and executed by the court of King George county for felony, having been previously valued to 100*l.*; that the petitioner has since frequently applied for payment, but in vain, there being no fund appropriated for the payment of such claims; and praying that his said demand may be paid.

Also, a petition of William Gatewood, to the same effect.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the said petitions do lie on the table.

A petition of George Flowerdew Norton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is one of the surviving partners of the late firm of John Norton and Sons, of London; that the debts due from the citizens of this State to the said company, amount to a very considerable sum, and that the said company is also indebted to many of the citizens of this State; that the petitioner having now become a citizen of this State, all those to whom the said company were indebted, look to him for payment; and some of them have actually commenced suits against him for that purpose; that the laws of this State at present prohibit the recovery of debts due to British subjects: so that your petitioner will be reduced to great distress; and praying that the General Assembly will take such steps as his peculiar situation requires.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of John Watkins, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed to settle his accounts and grant him a warrant for the balance of his pay, as steward to the continental hospital under the direction of Doctor Rickman.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle the accounts of expense in the acquisition of western territory; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Ronald, Wilson Cary Nicholas, and Nelson, were nominated a committee, to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examine the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Edward Carrington, Esq.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying a sum of money to the revisors of the laws; and for settling the accounts of William Boush, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment, and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such part of the public lands and other property, in or near the city of Richmond, as may not be necessary for the purposes of government, ought to be sold for money or military certificates, as may be most advantageous to the public; and that the proceeds of such sale ought to be invested in the erecting of public buildings in the said city of Richmond, pursuant to the act, "for the removal of the seat of government."

The said resolution being read a second time,



A motion was made, and the question being put to amend the same, by striking out from the word "resolved," to the end of the resolution; and inserting in lieu thereof, the words, "that proper measures ought to be adopted to obtain the opinion of the citizens of this Commonwealth, as to the place that ought to be fixed on for the seat of government;"

It passed in the negative.

And then the question being put to agree to the said resolution,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 63.

Noes, 57.

On a motion made by Mr. Clarke, and seconded by Mr. Southall;

*Ordered*, That the names of the members who voted in the affirmative or negative, on the last question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Nicholas, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, jun. Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Archibald Stewart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Thomas Claiborne, John Nicholas, Charles Patteson, John Ward, Jacob Morton, Thomas Collier, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, James Pendleton, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Spencer Roane, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, John Marshall, Roger Thompson, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Underwood, Isaac Coles, John Coleman, Isaac Vanmiter, Garland Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, Peter Saunders, Philip Barbour, Joseph Jones of King George, William White, Anthony Street, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, John Breckenridge, James Madison, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, William Mayo, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, William Grayson, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, Thomas Towles, Mann Page, Bailey Washington, William Brent, John Howell Briggs, William Russell and James Montgomery.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Parramore, Michael Bowyer, Moses Hunter, George Hancock, Samuel Hawes, jun. Miles King, George Wray, Alexander White, James Wood, Thomas Smith, jun. James Hubard, Andrew Donnelly, George Clendinnen, Batte Peterson, William Norvell, William Walker, John Scasbrook Wills, Robert Marshall, Edmund Byne, William Thornton, Benjamin Temple, William Dandridge Claiborne, John Heath, John Berryman, Francis Peyton, William Anderson, John Glenn, John Logan, William Randolph, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, William Annistead, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Lytleton Eyre, Bennet Tompkins, Thomas Gaskins, John Thornton, Ebenezer Zane, Edmund Rufin, John Ackiss, Thomas Walke, John Boyer, John Hayes, Gawin Hamilton, John Taylor of Southampton, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, Richard Henry Lee, Richard Lee, Joseph Prentiss, Nathaniel Nelson, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Matthews.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Henry, Ronald, and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Vanmiter have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "to revise and amend the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections," be discharged from further proceeding therein.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills, "to repeal an ordinance of Convention, to regulate the elections and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States, in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend the act, 'for establishing the High Court of Chancery;" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, June 12, 1784.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for allowing Colonel John ~~Green~~ half pay, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, "giving certain lands to Hampden Sydney College in the county of Prince Edward," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.



The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from General Mughlenburg, which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the owners of small craft, trading in Chesapeake bay, are greatly distressed by the law, which requires that they should be entered in the same manner in the naval offices, and pay the same fees as vessels trading to foreign parts; and praying that the same may be amended.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Northampton, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that from the present scarcity of specie in circulation, they apprehend the most ruinous consequences will ensue, if the courts are opened for the recovery of the debts due from the citizens of this State to British subjects; and praying that such measures may be adopted as will afford relief to the people, and may be consistent with the principles of justice.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that many inconveniences have arisen from the last tobacco laws, which united the warehouses at South Wicomico and Indian, under one inspection; and those of Coan and North Wicomico, under another; and praying that the same may be made under distinct inspections.

Also, a petition of Thorowgood Keeling; setting forth, that the wife of the petitioner before their intermarriage, hired a valuable negro man to one Robert Shidden, who soon afterwards joined the British troops, and carried the said negro with him; that the said Shidden was possessed of a considerable estate when he thus deserted his country, which has since been confiscated; and praying that the value of the said negro may be paid him, out of the said Shidden's estate.

Also, a petition of Moss Armistead, administrator of Joseph Selden, deceased; setting forth, that a negro fellow, the property of the deceased, having joined the British troops in the year 1775, was retaken in an engagement soon after, and by order of the committee of Safety sent to the West Indies, and sold for the benefit of the State; and praying that the value of the said slave may now be paid to the estate of the said Selden.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that their great distance from navigation will deprive them of the power of contributing their proportion of the public revenue, unless an inspection of tobacco is established in the said county; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that being ever desirous of complying with every requisition of the Legislature for the support of the war, they cheerfully paid to the collectors of the said county the tobacco tax due for the year 1781, which had been imposed by an act of Assembly, passed in the year 1779, but to their great surprise, were informed that the treasurer had refused to receive it, and that the same is now in the hands of the collectors; that the petitioners have been informed that a few counties have actually paid the said tax into the treasury, but that in the greatest part of them no collection has been made; and praying that an act may pass to compel the delinquent counties to pay the said tax in tobacco or specie at a certain price; and also to make good all other delinquencies of a similar nature.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Halifax, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences from the great extent of their county; and praying that an act may pass for dividing the same into two distinct counties.

Also, a petition of Hannah Tucker, widow of Robert Tucker, deceased; setting forth, that part of the dower allotted to her, was a lot in the borough of Norfolk, with very valuable improvements thereon; that after the destruction of the said place, the houses on the said lot were valued by the commissioners to 2,700*l.* which the Legislature resolved should be paid to her; and praying that provision may be made for the payment of the interest already due, and that which shall hereafter arise upon the said debt.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince George, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the situation of the courthouse and prison is inconvenient to a majority of the inhabitants of the said county; and praying that an act may pass, empowering the justices of the said county to fix the same in the centre thereof.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince George, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive the power which is at present given by law to the inspectors of tobacco, of burning all tobacco by them refused, is very injurious to the planter; and praying that the owners of all tobacco so refused, may be permitted to carry it to any other warehouse for further inspection.

Also, a petition of Thomas Herbert; setting forth, that Malcolm Herbert being considerably indebted to him, as a security for payment, mortgaged to him one hundred and fifty acres of land in Norfolk county, which has since been confiscated and actually sold by the escheator of Norfolk; and praying that his said debt may be paid out of the proceeds of the said sale.

Also, a petition of William Griffin, of the county of King and Queen; setting forth, that by the ill state of health of himself and one of his deputies, he was prevented from completing his collection of taxes in time; and praying that farther time may be allowed him to finish his collection.

Also, a petition of the people called Quakers, inhabitants of the county of Frederick; setting forth, that as it has ever been one of the fundamental principles of their religion, to refrain from the use of arms, they conceive it a very

great grievance to be compelled to attend the monthly musters of the militia; and praying to be exempted from that duty.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Spiller; praying to be allowed a bounty in land for military services rendered during the late war.

Also, a petition of Cleon Moore, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Stephen Ashby, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Thomas Elliott, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Cole Robertson, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Charles West, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Nathaniel Lucas, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of James Thompson, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Cuthbert Bullitt, as representative of Thomas Bullitt, deceased, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Philip Hammond and John Pryor, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Ryan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that as sheriff of Henry county, he did, previous to the destruction of the Manchester warehouses, receive in part of his collections for the said county, two tobacco notes, for tobacco since burnt in the said warehouses, which have been refused at the treasury; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Morton, sheriff of Charlotte county, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Robert Anderson, deputy sheriff of Cumberland county, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of George Brown; praying relief in consideration of wounds received in the service of his country.

Also, a petition of John Lapseley, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John Angel, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of George Pettit, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of William Lee; praying to be reimbursed for the injury done to certain houses of the petitioner in the city of Williamsburg, which were occupied by the troops of the Commonwealth during the late war.

Also, a petition of Richard Chapman; praying to be paid the value of a slave, condemned and executed by judgment of Hanover county court, for felony.

Also, a petition of Sheubel Pratt; praying that his accounts for services in the medical department during the late war, may be settled by the auditors.

Also, a petition of James Kemp, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Samuel Hatcher and Peter Edwards; setting forth, that they have never received their salaries as inspectors at Osborne's for the year 1781, the auditors refusing to liquidate the same in specie; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Bowyer; setting forth, that being employed to recruit soldiers for a company, of which he had the command during the late war, he advanced their bounties out of his own pocket; and praying to be reimbursed for the same.

Also, a petition of Doctor John Desequeyra; setting forth, that he has a claim against the public for services as a physician general to the hospital of lunatics in Williamsburg, which the auditors have refused to settle; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Arbuckle; setting forth, that he has a claim against the public for services during the late war, as armorer to the garrison at Fort Randolph, which the auditors have refused to settle; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Savary de Valcoulon; praying to be allowed damages and travelling expenses on the liquidated claim of Messrs. Colougnac and Company.

Also, a petition of Harrison, jun. and Company; setting forth, that they are agents for sundry merchants who were bona fide purchasers of warrants, granted by this State to Oliver Pollock, in part of his claims against it, which warrants have been stopped payment of by a subsequent resolution of the Assembly, whereby their principals will be greatly injured unless redressed by the Legislature; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Halifax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the glebe of the parish of Antrim, in the said county, may be sold, and the money arising therefrom applied towards lessening the parish levy.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the Right Honorable James Viscount Cliflen, of the kingdom of Ireland, and of the Right Honorable Edmund Sixton Pery, Esq. Speaker of the House of Commons of Ireland, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are interested on behalf of certain persons having claims under the will of Colonel John

Martin, deceased, to certain estates in this Commonwealth, which were escheated during the late war; and praying that the said estates may be restored.

Also, a petition of George Martin, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henrico, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they consider the act of Assembly passed in the year 1779, "for discouraging extensive credits," highly injurious to individuals, in frequently depriving them of their just debts, and to the community in general, in discouraging that credit without which our commerce cannot be carried on in an extensive manner; and praying that the said act may be repealed or amended.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

The orders of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to repeal an ordinance of Convention;" and, "to regulate the elections and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out, and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend an act, for establishing the High Court of Chancery;" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on all goods, wares and merchandize," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### MONDAY, June 14, 1784.

Mr. Matthews reported from the committee appointed to inquire into the infraction on the part of Great Britain, of the 7th article of the definitive treaty of peace between the United States of America and Great Britain; that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from a letter from his excellency General Washington, dated the 7th of May 1783, that in obedience to a resolution of Congress, he applied to General Carleton, and requested that he would deliver up the slaves and other property belonging to the citizens of the United States, in compliance with the 7th article of the definitive treaty; that he evaded a compliance with the said requisition by a false construction of the said article, and immediately sent off large numbers of the said slaves to Nova Scotia.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Thomas Walke, Esq. that he, together with several other persons from the counties of Norfolk and Princess Anne, immediately upon the conclusion of the peace, went to New York with a view of recovering the slaves which had been taken from them by the British troops during the war; that not being permitted to take possession of these slaves, which they found in that city, the said Walke made a personal application to General Carleton, and requested that he would comply with that article of the treaty which directed a restoration of all property which should appear to belong to the citizens of the United States. This he peremptorily refused, alleging that he was not authorised to do it without particular instructions from the British government.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of the said Walke, that immediately after this application three or four hundred negroes were sent to Nova Scotia.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Mr. Stuart of the State of Maryland, as well as from a variety of other circumstances, that many applications were made to General Carleton by the citizens of America for the restitution of property, which were invariably rejected.

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That there has been an infraction on the part of Great Britain, of the 7th article of the definitive treaty of peace between the United States of America and Great Britain, in detaining the slaves and other property of the citizens of the United States.

The said resolution being again read, was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Nathaniel Twining, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Nathaniel Twining, praying that an exclusive privilege may be granted him of conveying persons in a stage coach from Alexandria to the city of Richmond, for a certain term of years, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.



Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Sturdivant, guardian of Jane Sturdivant, an orphan, praying compensation for a negro slave who was in the public employ, and taken by the enemy; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of Patrick Davies, as prays that he may be paid by the public the sum of eighty pounds specie for a slave who was condemned and executed for felony by the sentence of the county court of Greenbrier, is reasonable, and that the auditors do issue their warrants accordingly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as prays that the sheriff of the said county of Greenbrier may be directed to pay the said sum of eighty pounds out of his collection; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition from the county of Augusta, as prays that further time may be given for paying hemp in discharge of taxes; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays for a reformation of the government of this Commonwealth, is reasonable; that the ordinance of Convention, commonly called the Constitution, does not rest upon an authentic basis, and was no more than a temporary organization of government for preventing anarchy, and pointing our efforts to the two important objects of war against our then invaders, and peace and happiness among ourselves; but this, like all other acts of legislation, being subject to change by subsequent legislatures possessing equal power with themselves, should now receive those amendments which time and trial have suggested, and be rendered permanent by a power superior to that of the ordinary legislature.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That an ordinance pass, recommending to the good people of this Commonwealth the choice of delegates, to meet in General Convention, with powers to form a constitution of government to which all laws present and future should be subordinate: *Providing,* that the present government shall remain in every respect as it now is, until such constitution shall be finally settled, and actually substituted.

The 1st and 3d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d and 4th resolutions being severally read a second time, were amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 5th and 6th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House upon the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Harrison do carry the 2nd resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of James Upshaw, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said James Upshaw was appointed a lieutenant in the month of February 1776, in which capacity, and that of a captain, he acted until the month of September 1778, when, by the arrangement of the army he was returned a supernumerary; that whilst in the army he received a painful wound in his ankle, which has in some measure disabled him; that he has been in service in the militia upon two different invasions of this State, by the enemy.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said James Upshaw, praying a bounty in lands, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the same portion as is by law given to a captain serving three years in the army.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Roger Williams, setting forth, that he was appointed commissary for the garrison at York town; and in the month of January 1780, was induced, from the sufferings of the troops at that garrison, and the unwillingness of the people to furnish provisions on the credit of the public, to pass his bond with one Robert Robertson, his security, to a certain Richard McIntosh, for the payment of such provisions as the garrison then stood in need of; that in the month of October following, he tendered to the said Richard McIntosh, money to the amount of his said bond, which he refused to receive as having considerably depreciated; since which, he has obtained a judgment against the petitioner and his said security, for 41l. 16s. 1d. specie, and actually recovered the same from the estate of his said security by suing out execution upon the said judgment; and praying that the said sum of money may be reimbursed by the public, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue a warrant accordingly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of Savary de Valcoulon as

prays, that he may receive immediate payment of the debt due from this State to Messrs. Colougnac and Company, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays, that he may be allowed an interest of six per centum on the said debt, to be computed from the date of the warrant, which he has obtained for the same bill paid; is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays, that the expenses which he has incurred in getting the said debt liquidated and ascertained; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Bronan, praying relief, in consideration of his being suddenly seized with a violent disorder, which has deprived him of the use of one side whilst an artificer in the public service, and which has rendered him unable to labor; be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Jacob Price, praying relief in consideration of several wounds which he received whilst a soldier in the service of this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Bronan, praying relief in consideration of several wounds which he received whilst serving as a soldier during the last war against the French; and also, during the late war, and which have rendered him unable to support himself by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, as a serjeant.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Robert Church, praying relief, in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle of Guilford Courthouse, whilst serving as a soldier in the militia of this State, and which has rendered him unable to labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 10*l.* for his present relief, and also the half pay of a soldier, for the term of four years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Ragsdale, late sheriff of the county of Lunenburg, setting forth, that by a resolution of the last Assembly, the damages obtained against him for a balance of the public taxes, were remitted upon condition that he paid the principal and costs on or before the last day of January, which he was prevented from doing by reason of the extreme severity of the weather; and praying that he may now be exonerated from the payment of the said damages; is reasonable.

The 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th resolutions, were severally read a second time, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d, 3d, and 4th resolutions were severally read a second time, and on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Lewis Abraham Pauley, and also the claim of Mr. Beaumarchais, to them referred; and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the claims of the said Lewis Abraham Pauley, and Mr. Beaumarchais against this State for military stores and clothing, furnished the same, ought to be referred to the executive for their settlement; and that they make report to the Legislature of such balances as shall appear to be due the said claimants.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate for their inspection.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for making allowances to Henry Ward and Catharine Helphinstone, and for continuing Jacob Wine on the list of pensioners. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to establish certain and adequate funds for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation.'" And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to repeal an ordinance of Convention, and to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

It appearing from the information of the attorney general, that accident hath hitherto prevented the settlement of

the dispute between the Commonwealth and Mr. Simon Nathan; and that he hath agreed with the said Nathan, to submit the same to arbitration, on a case to be stated and supported by arguments on both sides, in writing, provided a due sanction should be obtained for his so doing.

*Resolved*, That the General Assembly, are desirous that the dispute aforesaid, may be adjusted with expedition; and that the attorney general be authorised to submit it in such manner, and to such person or persons, as he shall approve, to be determined on principles of law and equity; and that he make report to the General Assembly, of his proceedings therein.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Cabell presented, according to order, a bill "directing the course of descents;" and the same was received and read the first time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the second reading of the said bill, be postponed until the second Monday in November next.

Mr. Cabell presented, according to order, a bill "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates estates, and the duty of executors and administrators;" and the same was received and read the first time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the second reading of the said bill, be postponed until the second Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That the letter from his excellency the Governor, enclosing one from General Mughlenburg, which was ordered to lie on the table, be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Mann Page reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, examined into the information respecting John Warden, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

The said John Warden appeared before your committee, and waving the necessity of examining any witnesses as to the charge against him, delivered in the following written acknowledgment, signed with his name:

"I do acknowledge, that on a mistaken opinion that the House of Delegates had voted against the payment of British debts, agreeable to the treaty of peace between America and Great Britain, I said, that if it had done so, some of them had voted against paying for the coats on their backs. A committee of the House judging this expression derogatory to the honor and justice of the House, I am sorry for the offence I have given, and assure the committee that it never was my intention to affront the dignity of the House, or insult any member of it."

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the acknowledgment of the said John Warden, is satisfactory; and that he ought to be discharged out of custody of the sergeant at arms.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the petition from sundry inhabitants of the county of Augusta, praying an alteration of the form of government, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, upon the bills "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend the act, 'for establishing the High Court of Chancery;" "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per centum, on certain goods, wares and merchandize;" and "for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, June 15, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal an ordinance of Convention, and to regulate elections, and enforce the attendance of the members of the General Assembly;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for altering the time of the annual meeting of the General Assembly, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had directed him, to report the same, without any amendment.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "to compel the delinquent counties within this State, to



pay the one eighth per cent. tax;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee to whom was referred that part of the Governor's letter respecting the forgeries of certificates, whereon settlements have been obtained in the auditors' office, under the act passed at the October session in the year 1781, entitled "an act, to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers, and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental establishment, and also of the officers, soldiers, sailors and marines in the service of this State, and for other purposes;" and under another act, passed at the May session 1782, entitled "an act, for providing more effectual funds for the pre-emption of certificates, granted the officers and soldiers raised by this State;" that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report whenever the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Henry Lee have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to prevent the malicious burning of prisons;" and that Messrs. Henderson, Marshall, Brent, Booker, and Carter Henry Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out, and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend the act, for establishing the High Court of Chancery;" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 16, 1784.

The House, being informed that Mr. Robert Sawyers, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Sawyers be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to compel the delinquent counties within this State, to pay the one eighth per cent. tax;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by the Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that William Mountjoy engaged in the service as a subaltern officer, in the third Virginia regiment in February 1776; that in the same year he exchanged his commission for that of quarter-master to the said regiment; that after acting some time as a regimental and brigade quarter-master, he was appointed paymaster to the third regiment, in which capacity he acted until the spring of the year 1779, when he retired from the service.

It appears to your committee, that Charles West, was appointed a captain in the third Virginia regiment, early in the spring of 1776, in which rank, and that of a major, he acted until the 6th day of July 1778, when he was per-

mitted by his excellency General Washington to retire from the service, on account of an inflammation in his right eye, which had deprived him of sight from it.

It appears to your committee, that Thomas Elliott, was appointed lieutenant colonel of a minute battalion in November 1775, and ordered to take command of the garrison at Hampton, where he continued until he was appointed a lieutenant colonel to one of the regiments raised by this State in the spring 1776, in which rank, and that of a colonel, he acted until October 1777, when his infirm state of health compelled him to resign.

It appears to your committee, that Michael Bowyer, was appointed a captain in the month of August 1776, to command a company of regulars raised by this State, for the purpose of defending the frontiers from the incursions of the Indians; that in the spring of the year 1777, he marched with his company from a fort at Tyger's Valley to Winchester, and was attached to the twelfth regiment; that he soon after received a commission in the line, and continued in service to the northward, until October 1778, when, by the reduction of the regiments, he became a supernumerary officer.

It appears to your committee, that Henry Tatem, was appointed a lieutenant of infantry, in March 1776, in which capacity he acted in the continental army until the arrangement took place in 1778, when he became a supernumerary officer; and that he has been since several times upon duty in the service.

It appears to your committee, that Gabriel Maupin, was appointed in the year 1776, keeper of the magazines in and near the city of Williamsburg, with the rank of captain, in which capacity he acted until the end of the war.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Mountjoy, praying a bounty in lands, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same portion as is by law given to a captain serving three years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Charles West, praying a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same portion as is by law given to a major serving three years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Elliott, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same quantity as is by law given to a colonel serving three years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Michael Bowyer, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the like quantity as is by law given to a captain serving three years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Henry Tatem, praying that the same portion of land may be allowed him as is by law given to a lieutenant serving three years, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Gabriel Maupin, praying that the same portion of land may be allowed him as is by law given to a captain serving three years, is reasonable.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 6th resolution being read a second time was amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 6th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the district of Kentucky, praying that circuit courts may be established for the purpose of trying caveats in each county within the said district, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Allen, praying that the warrants granted him by the auditors for pay and depreciation as a captain in the State artillery, may be cancelled by them; and that they issue the like certificates as those granted the officers of the State line, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Carter, late a surgeon's mate in the continental hospital, praying that his pay and depreciation account may be settled by the auditors, and that they grant him certificates for the balance, to be paid in like manner, as certificates granted the officers, is reasonable; and that the auditors charge the same to the United States in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Anthony Walke, Peter Singleton, William White and William Walke, of the county of Princess Anne, praying that the proprietors of lots in the town of Kempersville, may be allowed the term of twenty years to build upon and save the same, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Roderick McCulloch, sheriff of the county of Amherst, praying that the ten per centum damages upon a judgment against him in the General Court for balance of taxes due for the year 1782, may be remitted, is reasonable; it appearing to the committee, that the petitioner was not commissioned sheriff until January 1783, which was six months after the taxes were payable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the people called Quakers, inhabitants of the county of Frederick, praying that they may be exempted from attending general and private musters, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Thomas, sheriff of the county of Rockingham, praying that he may be allowed further time to collect and pay the taxes due from the said county, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Patrick Doran, praying that the register of the Land Office, may be empowered to issue a warrant for surveying a tract of land in the county of Lincoln, to which he is entitled to the right of pre-emption, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Murray, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, be rejected.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 6th resolution being read a second time, was amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 2d and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 6th resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prentiss reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday, to the bill "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" and he read the same in his place and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That a select committee be appointed to inquire into and report a state of the business to be settled by the commissioner appointed on the part of this State to act with the commissioner of the United States in settling the account of expenditures for acquisition and protection of the western country ceded by this State to the United States.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henderson, Isaac Zane, Grayson, Madison, Wood and Ronald.

The orders of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "to explain and amend the act, 'establishing the High Court of Chancery;" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 17, 1784.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have directed me to inform this House that they are willing to join in an address to General Washington; and that they have appointed a committee to prepare the same in concert with a committee of this House; also, they have agreed to the bill "to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements thereon, and the number of people within this Commonwealth," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to compel the delinquent counties within this State to pay the one eighth per cent. tax;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to compel the delinquent counties within this State to pay the one eighth per cent. tax."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Southall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing James Upshaw, a bounty in lands; for paying a sum of money to Thomas Nelson, jun.; for making compensation to Thomas Bronan and Robert Church, wounded soldiers; for putting Jacob Price, on the list of pensioners; respecting Simon Nathan's claim against this State; to exonerate John Ragsdale, from the damages upon a judgment obtained against him for a balance of taxes; and for reimbursing Roger Williams a sum of money advanced by him for the public, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.



A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “altering the time of the annual meeting of the General Assembly, and for other purposes.” And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, “to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 64.

Noes, 58.

*Resolved*, That the title of the bill be, “an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Henderson, and seconded by Mr. Carter Bassett Harrison,

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Nicholas Cabell, Archibald Stuart, Charles Patteson, Samuel Hawes, jun. Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, Miles King, George Wray, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, Thomas West, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, Isaac Coles, Garland Anderson, Patrick Henry, Peter Saunders, William Norvell, William Walker, John Seasbrook Wills, Robert Marshall, Philip Barbour, Larkin Smith, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, Benjamin Temple, William Dandridge Claiborne, John Heath, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Peyton, William Anderson, John Glenn, John Logan, Francis Corbin, John Breckenridge, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, William Armistead, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Lytleton Eyre, Bennett Tompkins, Thomas Gaskins, jun. Ebenezer Zane, James Madison, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, John Ackiss, Thomas Walke, John Taylor of Southampton, Albridgeton Jones, Thomas Towles, Mann Page, Bailey Washington, William Brent, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Thomas Edmonds of Sussex, John Langhorne, Joseph Prentis, Nathaniel Nelson and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, jun. Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Moses Hunter, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Thomas Claiborne, John Nicholas, John Ward, John Taylor of Caroline, Jacob Morton, Thomas Collier, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, James Pendleton, William Watkins, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, John Marshall, John Crittendon, Roger Thompson, Samuel Richardson, Alexander White, James Wood, James Hubard, Thomas Underwood, James Wall, Batte Peterson, John Coleman, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Benjamin Pope, Edmund Byne, William White, John Berryman, George Slaughter, Samuel Goode, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, Robert Sawyers, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, William Mayo, Edmund Ruffin, William Grayson, John Bowyer, Gavin Hamilton, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, William Russell and James Montgomery.

*Ordered*, That the bill entitled “an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth,” this day passed and ordered to be sent to the Senate for their concurrence, be inserted in the Journal, and, together with a copy of the Journal of the House thereupon, printed in hand bills, and four copies thereof delivered to each member.

A bill, entitled “an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth.”

Whereas, the trade and commerce carried on between the citizens of this Commonwealth and foreign merchants, would be placed upon a more equal foundation, and expedition and dispatch thereby the better promoted, if the vessels of foreign merchants trading to this State should be restricted to certain ports and places within the same, in lading and unlading; and the revenue arising from commerce would also thereby be more certainly collected;

*Be it therefore enacted*, That the ships and other vessels trading to this Commonwealth from foreign parts, which are the property of other than the citizens of the same, shall enter, clear out, lade and unlade at the following places, to wit: Norfolk, Portsmouth, Tappahannock, York town, or Alexandria, and at no other ports or places therein; and all ships and other vessels trading to this Commonwealth from foreign parts, owned by a citizen or citizens jointly with a foreigner or foreigners, shall also be restricted to enter, clear out, lade and unlade at these ports or places, and at none other; all duties payable upon tonnage, and upon goods, wares, and merchandize imported into this State, in such ships or other vessels, shall be paid and accounted for, by the master or owner, to the naval officer or collector, at such of the aforesaid ports or places where such ship or other vessel shall enter, and break bulk; and if the master or owner of any such ship or other vessel, shall enter, clear out, lade or unlade, or break bulk at any other port or place within this Commonwealth other than those aforementioned, the master or owner of such ship or other vessel shall forfeit and pay double that duty on tonnage, and the goods, wares, and merchandize by him, which by law he would be compelled to pay at any of the aforesaid ports or places; which said double duties shall be paid by such master or owner, in 48 hours after his arrival at any other port or place; and for failure thereof, he shall be subject to the like penalty, (as by law, the citizens of this Commonwealth are now subject to in case of failure) to pay the duties required from them upon the importation of goods, wares and merchandize; which said penalty shall be recovered and applied in like manner, as the penalty from the citizens in the case aforesaid, is directed to be recovered and applied.

And whereas, the navigating small country craft by slaves, the property of the owners of such craft, tends to discourage free white seamen; and to increase the number of such free white seamen would produce public good:

*Be it therefore enacted*, That not more than one-third part of the persons employed in the navigation of any bay or river craft, consist of slaves; and if the owner of any bay or river craft, shall presume to put on board any such craft as navigators, more slaves than the proportion aforesaid, such owner shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds for each offence, to be recovered by action of debt or information in any court of record.

X This act shall commence and be in force from and after the 10th day of June 1786; and so much of all acts of Assembly as comes within the purview of this act, shall be repealed.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to appoint commissioners to settle and adjust the rights of located lands in the counties of Jefferson, Lincoln and Fayette; and that Messrs. Barbour, Crittendon, Stuart, Marshall and Breckenridge, do prepare and bring in the same.

Resolved, That the register of the Land Office in issuing warrants to the several persons entitled to bounties in land by resolutions of General Assembly, be directed to specify, that such bounties are to be made good out of the surplus lands within the territory laid off by law for the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments, after their portions have been located.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Stuart do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to explain and amend the act, 'for establishing the High Court of Chancery;' and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

Ordered, That the said report be received to-morrow.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to ascertain the quantity of lands, the improvements thereon, and the number of people within this Commonwealth;" and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

4 The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution, for reimbursing Roger Williams a sum of money, advanced by him for the public; and the same being read, were agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, for continuing an act, entitled 'an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth.'"

"An act, for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners.'"

"An act, for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress."

"An act, for dividing the county of Monongalia."

"An act, to suspend in part the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue, into one act,' for a limited time."

"An act, to amend an act, for establishing a Land Office, and ascertaining the terms and manner of granting waste and unappropriated lands."

"An act, of indemnity to certain persons."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of Martinsburg in the county of Berkeley, and for other purposes.'"

Mr. Henderson presented, according to order, a bill "to prevent the malicious burning of the prisons in this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.

Resolved, That the bill be rejected.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to revive and amend the act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;' and that Messrs. Ronald, Grayson, Prentiss, Jones of Dinwiddie, and Nicholas, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Mr. Monroe, an extract of a letter from Mr. Hardy, and a letter of resignation of his seat in Council from Mr. Lomax; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out and procecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes;" and "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes," being read;

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



FRIDAY, June 18, 1784.

A bill, "directing the sale of certain public lands;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "directing the sale of public lands and other property in and near the city of Richmond;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Halifax, praying that the said county may be divided by Dan river to its confluence with Banister river, thence by Banister river to the county line, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an act may pass, appointing commissioners to divide equally amongst the petitioners a certain tract of land, which they hold in common, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the trustees and divers inhabitants of the town of Kempville, in the county of Princess Anne, as prays, that the trustees of the said town may be authorised and directed to lay off the same in a manner least prejudicial to the inhabitants thereof, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said petition, as prays, that the trustees may be empowered to levy a tax on the town, to be applied towards making reparation to the proprietors of lots, for the damages they may sustain by the laying off the said town, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays, that the lots in the said town, may not be forfeited for want of improvement within twenty years, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, praying that the inspections of Coan's, Wycomico and Indian Creek, may be separate and distinct, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d and 6th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Rachel Bryant, widow of Thomas Bryant, deceased, who was a lieutenant in the State garrison regiment; praying that a bounty in land may be granted her in consideration of her husband's services, be rejected; it appearing to the committee, that the said Thomas Bryant resigned his commission before he had served three years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Andrew Donnelly, sheriff of the county of Greenbrier; praying that the ten per cent. damages on the amount of a judgment obtained against him in the General Court, for the taxes due for the year 1782, may be remitted; and that he may be allowed until the 1st day in November next, to discharge such balance, upon the petitioner's paying the same in money, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of William Griffin, late sheriff of the county of King and Queen, as prays that the damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court for the balance of taxes due for the year 1782, may be remitted, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the petition of the said William Griffin, as prays that he may be allowed further time to collect the taxes due from the said county of King and Queen, for the year 1783, is reasonable, upon the petitioner's paying the balance of such taxes in money, on or before the 1st day of November next; it appearing to the committee, that the illness of one of the petitioner's deputies, who is lately dead, unavoidably retarded the collection of the said taxes.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Philip Hammond and John Pryor; praying that a gratuity in land may be made them, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Mayo, jun.; praying that a ferry may be established from his land on the south side of James river, to the opposite shore, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the farther consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the district of Kentucky, praying that a tax may be imposed on caveats, writs and subpoenas in Chancery, issued within the said district, and the monies arising therefrom, as also from the tax on ordinary licences, and duty on goods imported within the same, paid to the judges of the said District Court and attorney general, as an addition to their salaries, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the farther consideration of the petition of John Hunter, sheriff of the county of Campbell; praying that the treasurer may be directed to receive from him sundry notes for



tobacco which was burnt in Manchester warehouses, but received by him in the course of his collection before that event happened, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

The 1st, 3d, 5th, 6th and 7th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d and 4th resolutions being severally read a second time, were amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 8th resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 2d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Stephen Ashby to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Stephen Ashby was appointed a captain in the continental army on the 9th day of September 1776, and continued in actual service until September 1778, when he became a supernumerary at the arrangement and reduction of the Virginia line; that he was afterwards called into service to collect the recruits in different parts of the State, which, added to his former service, would complete three years.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Stephen Ashby, praying to be allowed the same bounty in lands as is given by law to a captain serving three years in the army, be rejected.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Leven Powell was appointed a major to a minute battalion in the year 1775, and was four months upon duty, in the latter end of that, and the beginning of the year 1776; that in December 1777, he was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in the continental army, and acted in that rank until October 1778, when his bad state of health compelled him to resign; that he has since been upon duty with the militia at different periods.

It appears to your committee, that Otway Byrd resigned his commission in the British service; and in September 1775, was appointed aid-de-camp to General Lee, in which capacity he acted until the 1st day of January 1777, when he was appointed lieutenant colonel of light dragoons, and acted under that appointment until the 15th of July 1778.

It appears to your committee, that Cleon Moore was appointed a captain in the continental army in the year 1777; that in the battle at Brandywine, he received a wound in his body, which disabled him from service until the year following, when he joined his regiment, and was in the battle of Monmouth; and that being unable to undergo the fatigue of another campaign, he resigned his commission.

It appears to your committee, that Nathaniel Lucas was appointed an ensign in the 4th Virginia regiment upon continental establishment, in February 1776; that he was afterwards promoted to the rank of captain, and by the arrangement of the army in the fall of 1778, he became a supernumerary officer; and that he hath since at different periods been upon duty in the militia.

It appears to your committee, that Thomas Bullitt, deceased, was in September 1775, appointed adjutant general of the forces raised in this State; that by an act of Congress, passed in March 1776, he was appointed deputy adjutant general in the southern department, with the rank of colonel, in which capacity he acted until his death in the year 1778.

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Levin Powell, praying that a portion in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same quantity as is by law given to a lieutenant colonel.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Otway Byrd, praying that a bounty in lands may be given him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the like portion as by law is given to a lieutenant colonel.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Cleon Moore, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same portion as is by law given to a captain.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Lucas, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same quantity as is by law given to a captain.

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Cuthbert Bullitt, praying that a portion in lands may be granted him, as representative and devisee of the said Thomas Bullitt, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same quantity as is by law given to a colonel.

The 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 5th resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House upon the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom it was referred, to prepare and bring in a bill pursuant to the prayer of a petition of sundry Quakers, be discharged therefrom; and that Messrs. Alexander White, Zane and Briggs, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments made yesterday to the bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing a High Court of Chancery,'" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William M'Guire, late a lieutenant in the 1st regiment of artillery; praying relief in consequence of a wound which he received at the battle of the Entaw Springs, and which will render him a cripple for life, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed half pay for life, to commence from the 3d day of November last, to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Mildred Holladay, setting forth, that she, with her family, have been reduced to great distress since the death of her husband, who was killed to the southward at the defeat of General Gates, whilst commanding a company of militia from the State, and praying relief; be rejected.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Binns Jones; setting forth, that he was appointed paymaster to one of the regiments of militia ordered to the relief of South Carolina, and received a considerable sum of paper money for the use of the said regiment; that the vouchers for the disbursements of the greater part of the said sum, and a small balance of it which remained in his hands, were taken by the enemy at the defeat of General Gates, by which he is unable to settle his accounts; and praying that he may be permitted to settle the same upon oath; is reasonable.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Webb, setting forth, that he was appointed paymaster and clothier to the State navy, and had settled all his accounts with the auditors for his disbursement, except for a quantity of goods which were destroyed by the troops under Lord Cornwallis, at the Point of Fork, in the year 1781, and which the auditors do not think themselves authorised to allow him a credit for; and praying that he may have a credit for the goods so destroyed, agreeable to the inventory taken thereof; is reasonable.

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Pierre, Lafargue & Co. setting forth, that in the year 1781, they had a schooner equipped for a voyage to the West Indies, loaded with upwards of 37,000 pounds of tobacco, which was impressed into the service of this State by a person authorised by the executive; and for which cargo, and the freight of the said vessel, they have received no satisfaction, and praying relief, ought to be referred to the executive to examine into the several matters contained therein; and after having ascertained the balance which may be due to the petitioners, that the Governor do direct the auditors to issue warrants for the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to compel the delinquent counties within this State, to pay up their deficiencies under the act for recruiting this State's quota of troops to serve in the army of the United States;" and that Messrs. Marshall, Henderson, Corbin, Towles, Roane, Alexander, White and Southall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the same committee, to receive a clause or clauses, for compelling delinquent counties to pay up certain arrearages of tobacco taxes.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills, "for appointing public notaries;" "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" "to invest the United States, in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "for imposing an additional duty

ot one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares, and merchandizes;" "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" "and for establishing an inspection of hemp;" being read:

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, June 19, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled, 'an act for establishing a High Court of Chancery,'" was read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill do lie on the table.

A bill, directing the sale of public lands and other property in and near the city of Richmond, was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, directing the auditors to issue certificates to John Allen; to remit the ten per cent. damages upon a judgment obtained against Roderick McCulloch; and for settling the accounts of Thomas Carter. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

It appearing to this House, that several sheriffs within this Commonwealth had, previous to the late burning of the warehouses at Manchester in March last, received in payment of taxes, notes for tobacco in the said warehouses, which the treasurer refused to receive in discharge of their respective collections;

*Resolved*, That the treasurer do receive such tobacco notes, on satisfactory proof being made to him that any note so offered was identically received in payment of taxes by the sheriff offering the same, previous to the burning of the said warehouses.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Meredith, setting forth, that he was an officer in the troops of this State, and was taken prisoner by the enemy at Camden, where he was stripped of all his wearing apparel; that his distress compelled him to contract a debt in Charlestown for the purchase of a few necessaries, amounting to 44l. 5s. sterling, which he has since paid; and praying that the said sum of money may be reimbursed him, and the amount thereof deducted from the certificates granted him for his depreciation of pay, is reasonable; and that the said sum of 44l. 5s. sterling, ought to be paid to the petitioner out of the fund appropriated for the redemption of the officers' and soldiers' certificates: it appearing to the committee that debts contracted by officers in similar circumstances have been paid by the public, and the amount thereof deducted from their pay.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Edmund Webb, praying that a certificate which was granted him for a horse impressed from him in the year 1780, and which was countersigned by the then governor, may be liquidated by the auditors, and a specie certificate granted him in lieu thereof; is reasonable.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Watkins, praying that his accounts for pay, and also his accounts for depreciation and subsistence as steward to the continental hospital under the direction of Dr. Rickman, may be settled by the auditors, and warrants granted him for the same, is reasonable; and that the same ought to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Shubell Pratt, praying that his accounts for services in the medical department under the direction of Dr. Rickman, during the late war, may be settled by the auditors, and certificates granted him for the same, is reasonable; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Angel and George Brown, praying relief in consideration of wounds which they received whilst serving as soldiers during the late war, and which have rendered them unable to labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioners ought to be put on the list of pensioners.



6. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Arthur Aikin, praying to be reimbursed the expenses which he incurred in the cure of a wound which he received at the defeat of Gen. Gates, to the southward, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of *£l. 19s. 5d.* for the same, to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

7. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Isaac Thacker, praying that an allowance may be made him for his care and attendance of a sick soldier, in the year 1780; and also, that he may be reimbursed the doctor's account, for medicines, &c. furnished the said soldier, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of *£l. 6s. 6d.* for the same; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

8. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Macton, setting forth, that as sheriff of Charlotte county, he did, previous to the destruction of the Manchester warehouses, receive in part of his taxes in the said county, from one William Davenport, a hogshhead of tobacco, which has been since burnt in the said warehouses; and praying that the treasurer may receive the said tobacco note, and that he may have credit for the same, is reasonable, upon the petitioner's producing satisfactory proof to the treasurer of his having received the same prior to the burning of the said warehouses.

9. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of William Armistead, late commissary of stores for the troops of this State, as sets forth, that from the various destructions of the stores and tobacco, under his care, by the enemy in the late war; and also, by the loss of many of his books, vouchers and documents, he is rendered unable to settle and close his accounts and public transactions with the auditors; and praying that the solicitor be authorised, upon application, to adjust his accounts according to these circumstances: requiring such evidence only, as the petitioner may be able to produce: so that justice may be done both to the public and the said petitioner, is reasonable.

10. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that he may be freed from all suits, and that no judgment shall be entered against him for any debts or contracts, made or entered into by him as commissary of public stores, for and in behalf of this Commonwealth, is reasonable.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th resolutions, being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 8th resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 9th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 10th resolution; and that the committee of Claims do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Joseph Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That Charles Mynn Thruston, Joseph Holmes, and Edward McGuire, ought to be appointed commissioners to take the depositions of witnesses, on the subject matter of the petitions of David Browne and Peter Hopwood, and return such depositions to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the farther consideration of the petition of the said David Browne, praying that an act may pass for dissolving the marriage of Susannah, his daughter, with the said Peter Hopwood, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the farther consideration of the petition of the said Peter Hopwood, in opposition thereto, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Halifax, praying that an act may pass for selling the glebe land, of Antrim parish, in the said county, and laying out the money in the purchase of another glebe, is reasonable.

The 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 4th resolution being severally read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the last resolution; and that the committee for Religion do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Tuesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates, to represent this State in Congress for one year from the first Monday in November next; and also to the choice of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Thomas Lomax and John Marshall, Esquires, who have resigned.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by a resolution of the General Assembly, prohibiting the register of the Land Office from issuing warrants on auditors' certificates, no provision was made for those, who previous to the passage of the said resolution, were entitled to land warrants, and it is just that provision should be made for such cases;

*Resolved*, That where any person is possessed of a certificate of settlement and pre-emption right or of a certificate from the auditors given before the passage of the said resolution, of having deposited money in the treasury of this Commonwealth, for the purpose of obtaining a land warrant, the register be directed to issue the same in the same manner as if the said resolution had never passed.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Briggs presented, according to order, a bill "to exempt Quakers from attending musters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Augustine Seaton, guardian to George Seaton, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Augustine Seaton, guardian to George Seaton, praying that part of his ward's estate, which consists of lands, and from which no means can be derived either for the support of his said ward, or for paying the taxes arising on the lands, may be sold, and the money arising therefrom vested in the purchase of slaves, for the support of his said ward, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for dissolving several vestries and electing overseers of the poor in certain counties;" and that Messrs. Michael Bowyer, Saunders, Stuart, Breckenridge, Coles and Henderson, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it be a standing order of this House, that no petition shall be received claiming a sum of money, unless it be accompanied with a certificate either from the executive or board of auditors, that the said claim has been laid before them respectively; and containing the reasons why they refused to settle the same.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to authorise the justices of the county court of New Kent to hold courts at such places as they shall think proper, on the lands whereon the courthouse of the said county lately stood;" and that Messrs. Armistead, Norvell and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to consider the report from the committee appointed to make inquiry respecting the burning of the tobacco warehouses at Rocky Ridge, which lay on the table; and the same being twice read, was amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the burning of the said warehouses, which happened on the morning of the 26th of March, was most probably done by one of the pickers, whilst under intoxication.

It appears to your committee, that 47 hogsheads were saved without damage; and that the further quantity of 79 hogsheads, weighing 89,862 pounds nett, has been re-pressed and re-inspected out of the tobacco saved from the flames; for the picking, re-pressing and furnishing casks for the tobacco so saved, it was stipulated by the inspectors of the said warehouses, upon the advice of four magistrates of their county, to give the persons engaged in that business, one fourth part of the tobacco so saved, which leaves the quantity of 37,397 pounds in their hands, with an expectation of getting 12 or 15 hogsheads more when the business shall be fully completed.

It further appears to your committee from the testimony of several creditable witnesses, that the said warehouses, when burnt, were in an exposed situation, from not being properly finished; and that Stephen Pankey and William Fowler, the inspectors, have been generally considered as attentive to their duty, and have given general satisfaction in the discharge thereof.

It further appears to your committee, that previous to the said warehouses being burnt, the inspectors made frequent applications to the court of their county to put the said warehouses in proper order, without being able to effect the same.

*Resolved*, That the said warehouses were burnt by accident, and not through neglect of the inspectors; and that they ought to be indemnified from any loss resulting therefrom.

*Resolved*, That the expenses incurred by the said inspectors in storing away the tobacco saved, and store-house rent for the same, amounting to 8*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* ought to be reimbursed them by the public; and that their contract made with the persons engaged in saving the tobacco taken out of the flames, ought to be confirmed.

*Resolved*, That the proprietors of tobacco in the said warehouses, ought to be reimbursed for the value of the said tobacco by the public, at the price which it was worth when the same was destroyed, and provision ought to be immediately made for the payment thereof by an additional duty of per hogshead, on all tobacco exported from this Commonwealth, for a limited time.

And whereas, it appears, that several hogsheads of tobacco, which were lodged in private warehouses after being inspected, were saved, and ought to be delivered to the owners thereof; but the books being destroyed, they are uncertain to whom they have issued notes for such tobacco; and several persons whom the inspectors know to be the makers of such tobacco, have applied to them for notes, alleging they have not heretofore obtained any note or receipt for the same, which the inspectors acknowledge they believe in several instances to be the case;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the said Stephen Pankey and William Fowler, inspectors at the aforesaid warehouses, ought to deliver all tobacco coming within the description aforesaid, to those persons who may apply to them for the same, or such persons making oath that such tobacco is their property; and that they have not at any time ob-



tained any inspector's note or receipt for the same; and further, the persons so applying, to enter into bond with two approved securities to the said inspectors, for double the value of such tobacco, to indemnify the said inspectors against the claims of all other persons who may hereafter be able to show they have a right to any of the tobacco so delivered.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Richard Lee, Sherwin, Bartlett Anderson, William Watkins, Wood, Strother, Southall, and Taylor of Southampton, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills, "for appointing public notaries;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers, for a limited time;" "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes;" "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" and "directing the sale of the public lands, known by the name of Gosport," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

## MONDAY, June 21, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus;" was read the third time and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Randolph have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

A bill, "to exempt Quakers from attending musters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from further proceeding upon the several petitions of Thorowgood Keeling, Robert Stewart, Thomas Applewhite and Thomas Herbert; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for incorporating the town of Petersburg;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning the jail in the city of Williamsburg;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "giving Nathaniel Twining, the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach, for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of James Holloway, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and disagreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said James Holloway, was appointed an ensign in the continental army, in September 1776, in which rank, and that of a lieutenant, he acted until 1788, when he became a supernumerary officer; and that he has since performed a tour of duty in the militia of this State, as an officer, to the southward.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said James Holloway, praying that a bounty in lands may be given him, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the same portion as is given by law to a lieutenant, serving three years.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of James Thompson, in behalf of himself and other officers and soldiers, who served at Fort Randolph, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said James Thompson, praying that the officers and soldiers who served at Fort Randolph, may be entitled to a bounty in lands as part of the 12th Virginia regiment; be rejected.



Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenville, praying that refused tobacco may not be burnt, and that the pickers may receive money in lieu of a proportion of the tobacco saved for their trouble, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Prince George, praying that the place for holding courts in the said county may be fixed at or near the centre thereof, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of the owners of small craft in the county of Northumberland, praying that small vessels may not be compelled to pay the same fees for entrance and clearance as those of a larger burthen, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Northampton, praying that executions may be suspended, or that all debts may be paid by instalments, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to authorise the delegates representing this State in Congress, to subscribe and ratify an alteration in the 8th of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen States of America; and that Messrs. Madison, Jones of King George, and Grayson, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, upon the said bill.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth :

Whereas, a part of the tract of country which hath been by law set apart on the east side of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, for bounties to the Virginia lines on continental and State establishments, including the navy, hath never yet been ceded by or purchased from the Indians claiming the same, and it is necessary that measures be taken for effectuating such cession or purchase;

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor, with advice of Council, be empowered to take such measures for obtaining a cession or purchase of any of the aforesaid lands, which may be claimed by any tribe or nation of Indians, and have never yet been so ceded or purchased, as to them shall seem most conducive to the honor and interest of this State.

And whereas, it is represented that a guard directed by the last session of Assembly to be furnished from the Kentucky militia, for the purpose of protecting the superintendants and surveyors in the business of locating and surveying the lands given as bounties to the troops aforesaid, cannot, with justice and safety to the people of the said district, be obtained;

*It is therefore resolved,* That the Governor, with advice of Council, be empowered to apply to Congress through the delegates of this State, for its sanction to the raising of a proper number of troops, not exceeding two companies, properly officered, to serve one year, if not sooner discharged; and having obtained such sanction, to proceed to take immediate measures to raise the same, on the like pay and rations as were allowed to troops in the service of this State in the late war: to be supplied with the necessary pack-horses, not exceeding twenty: engaging to the non-commissioned officers and privates, the same bounties in land as have by law been allowed to the aforesaid troops for three years, so as that the bounties hereby promised do not interfere with past donations by law or resolution of Assembly; and that whatever money may be necessary for carrying into effect this or the foregoing resolution, be drawn from the fund arising from

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition from Augusta county, as relates to an alteration of the constitution or form of government, ought to be rejected; such a measure not being within the province of the House of Delegates to assume; but on the contrary, it is the express duty of the representatives of the people at all times, and on all occasions, to preserve the same inviolable, until a majority of all the free people shall direct a reform thereof.

The 1st and 2d resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution being read a second time; a motion was made, and the question being put to amend the same, by striking out the words, "such a measure not being within the province of the House of Delegates to assume; but on

the contrary, that it is the express duty of the representatives of the people at all times, and on all occasions, to preserve the same inviolable, until a majority of all the free people shall direct a reform thereof;"

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 42.

Noes, 57.

On a motion made by Mr. Wilson Cary Nicholas, and seconded by Mr. Towles;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Samuel Sherwin, Michael Bowyer, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stewart, Charles Patterson, Samuel Hawes, jun. John Taylor of Caroline, Bernard Markham, William Watkins, Alexander Henderson, John Marshall, James Wood, Andrew Donnelly, George Clendinnen, William Norvell, Edmund Byne, Larkin Smith, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, Benjamin Temple, William White, John Logan, John Breckenridge, Thomas Gaskins, John Thornton, James Madison, Charles Porter, William Ronald, John Taylor of Southampton, John Hopkins, Thomas Towles, Bailey Washington, William Brent, Carter Bassett Harrison, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, Richard Lee, James Montgomery, Joseph Prentis, Nathaniel Nelson and Henry Tazewell.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Thomas Claiborne, John Nicholas, John Ward, Thomas Collier, William Green Munford, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, James Pendleton, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, Thomas West, William Pickett, John Mosby, Roger Thomson, Samuel Richardson, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, jun. Thomas Underwood, John Coleman, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, Patrick Henry, Peter Saunders, John Seabrook Wills, Robert Marshall, Benjamin Pope, Miles King, John Heath, Francis Peyton, William Anderson, Anthony Street, John Glenn, William Curtis, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Worman, Robert Sawyers, Littleton Eyre, Bennet Tompkins, Benjamin Lankford, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, Edward Bland, John Ackiss, Thomas Walke, John Bowyer, Gavin Hamilton, Albrington Jones, John Allen, William Russell and Thomas Matthews.

A motion was then made, and the question being put, to amend the said resolution, by striking out the words "a majority of all the free people shall direct a reform thereof," and inserting in lieu thereof, the words "it shall be constitutionally reformed;"

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 41.

Noes, 47.

And then the main question being put to agree to the said resolution,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 2d resolutions; and that Messrs. Alexander White, Carrington, Temple, Gaskins, Hawes and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to revive and amend in part, an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and to locate warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" and that Messrs. Breckenridge, John Bowyer, Stuart, Michael Bowyer, Ruffin and Marshall, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "authorising the members representing this State in Congress, to subscribe and ratify an alteration of the eighth of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen States of America;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring a bill "for establishing adequate funds for the support of the Kentucky district court;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Taylor of Caroline, Mosby, Barbour and Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for allowing Binns Jones, to settle his accounts upon oath; for remitting the ten per centum damages upon a judgment obtained against Andrew Donnelly, sheriff of Greenbrier; for allowing William McGuire half pay for life; for allowing William Griffin, sheriff of King and Queen, further time to collect the taxes for the year 1783; and for referring the claim of Pierre Lafargue and Company, against this State, to the Executive. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring a bill "to amend the several acts, 'concerning marriages;" and that Messrs. Ronald, William White, Zaue, Towles and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for appointing public notaries;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on all goods, wares and merchandizes;" "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" and "directing the sale of public lands known by the name of Gosport," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



TUESDAY, June 22, 1784.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for incorporating the town of Petersburg;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "concerning the jail in the city of Williamsburg;" was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "giving Nathaniel Twining an exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "authorising the delegates representing this State in Congress to subscribe and ratify an alteration of the 8th of the articles of confederation, and perpetual union between the thirteen States of America;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to proceed this day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress for one year from the first Monday in November next; and also, of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of Thomas Lomax and John Marshall, Esquires, who have resigned. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to exempt Quakers from attending msters;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to exempt Quakers from attending msters."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House then proceeded, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this State in Congress, for one year from the first Monday in November next; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes; Messrs. Alexander White, Tazewell, Watkins and Matthews, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House, on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Samuel Hardy, James Monroe, John Francis Mercer, Richard Henry Lee, and William Grayson, Esquires.

The House then proceeded, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of two members of the Privy Council, or Council of State, in the room of Thomas Lomax and John Marshall, Esquires, who have resigned; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes; Messrs. Tazewell, Henderson, Wills, John Marshall, William Watkins, Jones of King George, Richard Lee, and Underwood, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House in whose favor a majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of James Wood and James McClurg, Esquires.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting the claim of Mr. Beaumarchais, and enclosing a letter of resignation from Mr. Thomas Parsons, naval officer for the district of Northampton; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this committee, That the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the infraction on the part of Great Britain, of the 7th article of the definitive treaty of peace between the United States of America and Great Britain, as amended and agreed to by this committee, in the words following, to wit:

It appears to your committee, from a letter from his excellency General Washington, dated the 7th day of May 1783, that in obedience to a resolution of Congress, he had a conference with General Carleton, on the subject of delivering up the slaves and other property belonging to the citizens of the United States, in compliance with the articles of the provisional treaty; that he, General Carleton, appeared to evade a compliance with the said treaty, by a misconstruction of the same, and permitted a large number of the said slaves to be sent off to Nova Scotia.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Thomas Walke, Esq. that he, together with several other persons from the counties of Norfolk and Princess Anne, in or about the month of April 1783, went to New York with a view of recovering the slaves which had been taken from them, by the British troops during the war; that not being permitted to take possession of those slaves, which they found in that city, the said Walke made a personal application to General Carleton, and requested a delivery of the said slaves, in compliance with the 7th



article of the treaty which prohibits the carrying off negroes or other property belonging to the inhabitants of the United States: this he peremptorily refused, alleging that he was not authorised to do it, without particular instructions from the British government.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of the said Walke, that at the time of this application, he was informed by an aid-de-camp of General Carleton, that an agent was appointed to superintend the embarkation, and keep a register of slaves sent to Nova Scotia; and that he afterwards saw the said register, and also saw a large number of negroes embarked, to be sent to that country.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Mr. John Stuart, of the State of Maryland, as well as from a variety of other circumstances, that many applications were made to General Carleton by the citizens of America, for the restitution of property, which were invariably rejected, ought to be confirmed.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That there has been an infraction on the part of Great Britain, of the 7th article of the treaty of peace between the United States of America and Great Britain, in detaining the slaves and other property of the citizens of the United States.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the delegates representing this State in Congress, be instructed to lay before that body the subject matter of the preceding report and resolution, and to request from them a remonstrance to the British court, complaining of the aforesaid infraction of the treaty of peace, and desiring a proper reparation of the injuries consequent thereupon; that the said delegates be instructed to inform Congress, that the General Assembly has no inclination to interfere with the power of making treaties with foreign nations, which the confederation hath wisely vested in Congress; but it is conceived, that a just regard to the national honor and interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth, obliges the Assembly to withhold their co-operation in the complete fulfilment of the said treaty, until the success of the aforesaid remonstrance is known, or Congress shall signify their sentiments touching the premises.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so soon as reparation is made for the aforesaid infraction, or Congress shall adjudge it indispensably necessary, such acts of the Legislature passed during the late war, as inhibit the recovery of British debts, ought to be repealed, and payment thereof made in such time and manner as shall consist with the exhausted situation of this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further operation of all and every act or acts of Assembly concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, ought to be prevented.

The 1st and 2d resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed in conjunction with a committee of the Senate, to prepare an address to General Washington, that the committee had, according to order, prepared the same, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

The representatives of this Commonwealth, would be unfaithful to the sentiments of their constituents, as well as do violence to their own, did they omit this occasion of congratulating you on the final establishment of peace, which has taken place since their last meeting, and on the opportunity which this event has given for your return to the felicities of private life. We shall ever remember, Sir, with affection and gratitude, the patriotic exchange which you made of these felicities, for the severe task of conducting the armies of your country through a conflict with one of the most powerful nations of the earth. We shall ever remember with admiration, the wisdom which marked your councils on this arduous occasion; the firmness and dignity which no trials of adverse fortune could shake; the moderation and equanimity, which no scenes of triumph could disturb: nor shall we ever forget the exemplary respect which in every instance you have shewn to the rights of civil authority: or the exalted virtue, which on many occasions led you to commit to danger your fame itself, rather than hazard for a moment the true interest of your country. In reviewing these merits, we feel every impression which they are calculated to make on grateful and affectionate minds; and we fervently pray that they may be rewarded with every blessing of which this life will admit, and with complete happiness in that which is to come.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the said address to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed to meet a committee of the Senate, to devise the most proper measures of perpetuating to posterity the gratitude and affection which this country bears to General Washington; that the committee had, according to order, met a committee of the Senate, and had jointly with them agreed to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved,* That the Executive, be requested to take measures for procuring a statue of General Washington, to be of the finest marble and best workmanship, with the following inscription on its pedestal, viz:

"The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, have caused this statue to be erected as a monument of affection and gratitude to George Washington, who, uniting to the endowments of the hero, the virtues of the patriot, and exerting both in establishing the liberties of his country, has rendered his name dear to his fellow-citizens, and

given to the world an immortal example of true glory; done in the year of Christ      and in the      year of the Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "directing the sale of certain public land, and other property, in and near the city of Richmond;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" "for appointing public notaries;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers, for a limited time;" "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per cent. on certain goods, wares, and merchandizes;" "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" and "directing the sale of the public lands, known by the name of Gosport," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, June 23, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the jail in the city of Williamsburg;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, concerning the jail in the city of Williamsburg."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "authorising the delegates representing this State in Congress, to subscribe and ratify an alteration of the 8th of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen States of America;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, authorising the delegates representing this State in Congress, to subscribe and ratify an alteration of the 8th of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen States of America."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth, with several amendments," to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the resolutions reported from the committee for the whole House upon the state of the Commonwealth, yesterday, which lay on the table; and the same being read, are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, be instructed to lay before that body, the subject matter of the preceding report and resolution, and to request from them a remonstrance to the British court complaining of the aforesaid infraction of the treaty of peace, and desiring a proper reparation for the injuries consequent thereupon; that the said delegates be instructed to inform Congress, that the General Assembly have no inclination to interfere with the power of making treaties with foreign nations, which the confederation hath wisely vested in Congress; but it is conceived that a just regard to the national honor and interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth, obliges the Assembly to withhold their co-operation in the complete fulfilment of the said treaty, until the success of the aforesaid remonstrance is known, or Congress shall signify their sentiments touching the premises.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so soon as reparation is made for the aforesaid infraction, or Congress shall adjudge it indispensably necessary such acts of the legislature passed during the late war, as inhibit the recovery of British debts, ought to be repealed, and payment made thereof in such time and manner as shall consist with the exhausted situation of this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther operation of all and every act or acts of Assembly concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects, ought to be prevented.

The first resolution being read a second time, the amendment following was proposed to be made thereto: strike out from the word "thereupon," to the end of the resolution; and insert, "and that in case of refusal or unreasonable delay of due reparation, the said delegates be instructed to urge that the sanction of Congress be given to the just policy of retaining so much of the debts due from the citizens of this Commonwealth, to British subjects, as will fully repair the losses sustained by the infraction of the treaty aforesaid."

And the said amendment being twice read, a motion was made to amend the same, by adding to the end thereof, these words, "and that, to enable the said delegates to proceed herein, with greater precision and effect, the executive be requested to take immediate measures for obtaining and transmitting to them all just claims of the citizens of this Commonwealth, under the treaty aforesaid."

The amendment to the amendment, being twice read; and the question put, that the House do agree to the same; It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 33.

Noes, 55.

On a motion made by Mr. Madison, and seconded by Mr. John Watkins;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the said question, be inserted in the Journal.



The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Nicholas Cabell, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stewart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Thomas Claiborne, James Pendleton, William Watkins, John Marshall, Alexander White, William Norvell, Philip Barbour, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Corbin, John Breckenridge, John Watkins, Thomas Gaskins, James Madison, Edward Bland, Thomas Walke, John Taylor of Southampton, Albrington Jones, Thomas Towles, Bailey Washington, William Brent, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Richard Lee, Nathaniel Nelson, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Edward Carter, John Booker, jun. William Meredith, Michael Bowyer, Robert Clarke, John Ward, Samuel Hawes, jun. Jacob Morton, Thomas Collier, Matthew Cheatham, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, Thomas West, William Pickett, Roger Thompson, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Smith, jun. James Hubard, John Coleman, Thomas Underwood, Andrew Donnelly, James Wall, Batte Peterson, Isaac Coles, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Heury, John Scasbrook Wills, Robert Marshall, Benjamin Pope, Edmund Byne, William Dandridge Claiborne, John Heath, Francis Peyton, William White, Anthony Street, John Glenn, George Slaughter, William Curtis, Kinchen Godwin, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, Richard Bibb, John Clarke, Edmund Ruffin, John Bowyer, William Russell and James Montgomery.

The amendment to the said resolution, as first proposed, being then again read; and the question put that the House do agree to the same;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 33.

Noes, 50.

On a motion made by Mr. Madison, and seconded by Mr. Strother;

*Ordered*, That the ayes and noes on the said question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Nicholas Cabell, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, French Strother, James Pendleton, William Watkins, Miles King, John Marshall, Alexander White, Turner Southall, William Norvell, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, John Breckenridge, John Watkins, Thomas Gaskins, James Madison, William Ronald, Thomas Walke, John Taylor of Southampton, Albrington Jones, Thomas Towles, Bailey Washington, William Brent, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Nathaniel Nelson, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Matthews.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Edward Carter, John Booker, jun. William Meredith, Michael Bowyer, Robert Clarke, John Ward, Samuel Hawes, Thomas Collier, Matthew Cheatham, Carter Henry Harrison, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, Thomas West, William Pickett, Roger Thompson, Thomas Smith, jun. James Hubard, Thomas Underwood, Andrew Donnelly, James Wall, Batte Peterson, Isaac Coles, John Coleman, Garland Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, John Scasbrook Wills, Robert Marshall, Benjamin Pope, Edmund Byne, William Dandridge Claiborne, John Heath, William White, Anthony Street, John Glenn, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Charles Porter, William Dix, Benjamin Lankford, Richard Bibb, John Clark, Edmund Ruffin, Edward Bland, John Bowyer, William Russell and James Montgomery.

And the main question being put, that the House do agree to the said 1st resolution;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

The 2d and 3d resolutions were then severally read; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the 1st and 2d resolutions, together with the resolutions reported from the committee of the whole House, and agreed to yesterday, be sent to the Senate for their concurrence, and that Mr. Matthews do carry the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d resolution; and that Messrs. Matthews, Tazewell, Southall, Stuart, and Jones of King George, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "directing the sale of the public lands and other property in and near the city of Richmond;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the resolutions, for granting bounties of land to Alexander McClannahan, Thomas Elliott, Otway Byrd, Cleon Moore, William Mountjoy, Thornton Taylor, Gabriel Maupin, Charles West, William Boyce, Nathaniel Lucas, Michael Bowyer and Leven Powell, with an amendment to the last, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the resolutions, directing the auditors to grant a specie certificate to Edmund Webb; to settle the accounts of John Watkins; directing the treasurer to receive from the sheriffs, notes for tobacco destroyed at Rocky Ridge, collected by them before the burning of the said warehouses; for allowing sums of money to Isaac Thacker, Arthur Aiken and William Meredith; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of Steuball Pratt; and for putting John Angel and George Brown, on the list of pensioners. And then he withdrew.



The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a naval officer for the district of Northampton, in the room of Thomas Parsons, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Breckenridge presented, according to order, a bill "to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for incorporating the town of Petersburg," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which be read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate to the resolution, for granting a bounty of lands to Levin Powell; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding on the petitions of Harrison, jun. and Company, and Bristol Brown and others; and that the 1st be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and the other, to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the register of the Land Office do, with all practicable dispatch, cause to be made out and forwarded to the clerk of the Superior Court, for the district of Kentucky, a copy of all the certificates for settlements and pre-emptions, granted by the commissioners for the said district; which said copy shall be examined and certified by the register, and filed amongst the records of the said Court, and which, or a copy of any such certificate, certified by the clerk of the said Court, shall be deemed legal evidence in all cases whatever.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "for the better support of the Supreme Court, in the Kentucky district;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "authorising the executive to treat with certain tribes of Indians, for a cession of lands claimed by them, and to provide for the protection of the superintendants and surveyors, employed in locating and surveying the lands given as bounties to the army;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" "for appointing public notaries;" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "for imposing an additional duty of one and a half per centum on certain goods, wares and merchandizes;" "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" "directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport;" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, June 24, 1784.

A bill, "to revive and amend in part, an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to exempt Quakers from attending musters.” And then he withdrew.

A bill, “authorising the executive to treat with certain tribes of Indians, for a cession of lands claimed by them, and to provide for the protection of the superintendants and surveyors employed in locating and surveying the lands given as bounties to the army;” was read the second time and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, “to amend the several acts, ‘concerning marriages;’” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill “to revive and amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;’” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Barbour presented, according to order, a bill “appointing commissioners to settle the rights of location;” and the same was received and read the first time; and on a motion made, ordered that the second reading of the said bill be postponed until the first Monday in November next.

Mr. Jones presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill “to empower the vestry of Antrim parish, in the county of Halifax, to sell the glebe of the said parish, and lay out the money in purchasing a more convenient glebe;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill “giving Nathaniel Twining the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach, for a limited time,” was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their farther consideration, the petition of John Rogers, complaining of an undue election and return of Mr. Albrington Jones, to serve as a delegate for the county of Southampton, in this present General Assembly, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the further consideration of the petition of the said John Rogers, be deferred to the first Monday in November next; and that the commissioners heretofore appointed to take the depositions of witnesses, be empowered to send for persons, papers and records, and to state such facts as shall appear to them, and return the same to this House, on the said first day of November next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for giving a bounty in lands to Carter Page. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “concerning the jail in the city of Williamsburg.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday to the bill “directing the sale of the public lands and other property in and near the city of Richmond;” and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk’s table, where the same being again twice read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for imposing an additional duty of one and an half per centum on certain goods, wares and merchandizes;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for establishing an inspection of hemp;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report, be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the

Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and for other purposes;" "to invest the United States, in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and 'for establishing a permanent revenue," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, June 25, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for incorporating the town of Petersburg," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for incorporating the town of Petersburg, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the sale of the public lands, and other property in and near the city of Richmond;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of rider, "directing that all sales by virtue of this act, for certificates, should be by private sale only, and before the 1st of October next."

And the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of rider.

And then the main question being put, that the said bill do pass;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 56.

Noes, 27.

*Ordered*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, directing the sale of the public lands and other property, in and near the city of Richmond."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Tazewell, and seconded by Mr. William Watkins;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, jun. John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Archibald Stuart, John Nicholas, Charles Pateson, Thomas Collier, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, James Pendleton, William Watkins, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, John Mosby, John Crittendon, Roger Thompson, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Underwood, Isaac Coles, John Coleman, Garland Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Patrick Henry, Peter Saunders, Edmund Byne, William White, William Anderson, Anthony Street, John Glenn, George Slaughter, Benjamin Wilson, Francis Workman, John Breckenridge, James Madison, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, William Ronald, Richard Bibb, John Clarke, William Grayson, Thomas Towles, James Montgomery, John Logan and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Michael Bowyer, Samuel Hawes, jun. Alexander White, Thomas Smith, Batte Peterson, William Curtis, Kinchen Godwin, William Thornton, Benjamin Temple, John Heath, Francis Peyton, Francis Corbin, William Armistead, John Watkins, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Littleton Eyre, Thomas Gaskins, Edmund Ruffin, Edward Bland, John Bowyer, John Taylor of Southampton, John Allen, Richard Lee, Nathaniel Nelson and Henry Tazewell.

An engrossed bill, "for imposing an additional duty of one and an half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for imposing an additional duty of one and an half per cent. on certain goods, wares and merchandizes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for appointing public notaries," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for appointing public notaries."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "giving Nathaniel Twining the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach, for a limited time," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.



*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act giving Nathaniel Twining the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach, for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill, "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth." And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to revive and amend an act entitled, 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A bill "to empower the vestry of Antrim parish, in the county of Halifax, to sell the glebe of the said parish, and to lay out the money in purchasing a more convenient glebe," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday, to the bill "directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed, and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly 'concerning marriages,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and had gone through the same, and had directed him to report it, without amendment, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the second Monday in November next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, upon the said bill.

The orders of the day for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of a naval officer, for the district of Northampton; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to revive and amend in part, 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants on pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers, for a limited time;" "directing the sale of certain public lands;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, June 26, 1784.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their examination.

An engrossed bill, "to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive and amend an act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the vestry of Antrim parish in the county of Halifax, to sell the glebe of the said parish, and to lay out the money in purchasing a more convenient glebe;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to empower the vestry of Antrim parish in the county of Halifax, to sell the glebe of the said parish, and lay out the money in purchasing a more convenient one."

*Ordered*. That Mr. Joseph Jones of King George, do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bills "authorising the delegates representing this State in Congress, to subscribe and ratify an alteration in the 8th of the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen States of America;" "to compel the delinquent counties within this State to pay the one eighth per cent. tax;"

also, to the address to General Washington; also, to the resolutions directing the auditors to settle the accounts of John Webb; for procuring a statue of General Washington; directing the register to transmit to the clerk of the Supreme Court of Kentucky, a copy of all certificates for settlement in pre-emption rights; and directing the solicitor to settle the accounts of William Armistead, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the sale of the public lands known by the name of Gosport."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee presented, from the committee of Claims, according to order, a bill "to prohibit the prosecution of any suits against William Armistead, for debts contracted by him on public account;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments, and do agree to the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee of the whole House, had yesterday, had under their consideration, the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning marriages;" and had gone through the same without any amendment.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to suspend the distress for the one per cent. tax on land for a limited time;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Madison, and William Watkins, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Executive be empowered and directed to appoint two commissioners, for the purpose of examining into all impositions which have happened in the settlement of accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line on continental or State establishments, including the navy, with the auditors, for arrearages of pay and depreciation; that they be empowered to take measures for obtaining from the war office of the United States, any documents which may be necessary in aiding the business as to the continental line; that they direct the different officers of government to afford such assistance as to them shall appear necessary; and that a report of all proceedings herein be made to the next session of Assembly. And for guarding against future impositions, as well as to bring certainly to view the amount of the debt arising on the aforesaid claims:

*It is further resolved*, That from henceforward the auditors do settle no claims for arrearages of pay or depreciation, except on the certificate of one, at least, of the commissioners to be appointed as aforesaid, who are hereby authorised to give such certificates on being satisfied of the justness of the claims, by any evidence which can be obtained; that the said auditors shall close their office against the settlement of these claims on the 1st day of January next; that they publish this and the foregoing resolution in all the papers printed in the city of Richmond, and send the same by the best opportunities that may offer, to be posted up at the door of every courthouse within this Commonwealth; also, a copy thereof to the lieutenant of each county, who is to have the same publicly read at the private and general musters.

*And it is further resolved*, That the executive shall allow to the commissioners to be appointed as aforesaid, such compensation as to them shall seem just.

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the farther consideration of the petition of Benjamin Spiller, praying that a captain's quota of land may be granted him, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of George Robertson, sheriff of the county of Chesterfield, praying that the ten per centum damages and costs of a judgment obtained against him for the balance of taxes due for the year 1782, may be remitted; be rejected.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Jones of King George, Grayson, Brent, Henderson and West, be appointed a committee, who, in conjunction with such members as may be appointed by the Senate, shall present to General Washington the address of the General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones of King George, do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a naval officer for the district of Northampton, in the room of Mr. Thomas Parsons, who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name

of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes; Messrs. Matthews, Hunter and Markham, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom a majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that the committee had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Mr. George Savage.

The House, according to the order the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed, and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bassett:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have appointed a committee, to present in conjunction with a committee of this House, the address of the General Assembly to General Washington. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to obtain warrants upon certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed, and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed, and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the infraction on the part of Great Britain, of the 7th article of the definitive treaty; also, to the bills "directing the mode of suing out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus," with several amendments, "to which they desire the concurrence of this House;" and "directing the sale of the public lands and other property in and near the city of Richmond," with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the said bills; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Southall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

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## MONDAY, June 28, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time," was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning marriages,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.



And the question being put, that the said bill do pass;  
It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 50.

Noes, 30.

*Resolved*, That the title of the bill be, "an act to amend the several acts of Assembly 'concerning marriages.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Alexander White, and seconded by Mr. Ronald;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the foregoing bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Nicholas Cabell, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Nicholas, Samuel Hawes, jun. William Green Munford, Bernard Markham, French Strother, William Watkins, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, William Gatewood, John Mosby, John Crittendon, Roger Thompson, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Smith, jun. Thomas Underwood, Batte Peterson, Garland Anderson, Edmund Byne, Larkin Smith, William White, William Anderson, John Logan, George Slaughter, Benjamin Wilson, George Worman, John Breckenridge, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, John Kearnes, Bennett Tompkins, Charles Porter, William Mayo, William Ronald, Gawin Hamilton, John Hopkins, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomas Towles, Bailey Washington, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs and James Montgomery.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, John Booker, jun. Moses Hunter, Carter Henry Harrison, George Wray, Spencer Roane, Alexander Henderson, Thomas West, Wm. Pickett, James Hubard, Andrew Donnelly, Isaac Coles, Benjamin Pope, Francis Peyton, Francis Corbin, Kinchen Godwin, John Watkins, John Thornton, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, John Clarke, Edmund Rufin, William Grayson, Isaac Zane, Albrington Jones, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Richard Lee, Henry Tazewell, Alexander White and Thomas Matthews.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the third reading of the engrossed bill "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,'" be postponed until the third Monday in November next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to revive and amend an act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" and "to empower the vestry of Antrim parish in the county of Halifax, to sell the glebe of the said parish, and to lay out the money in purchasing a more convenient one;" also, to the resolutions granting bounties of land to Isbam Keith, and John M'Adam. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to prohibit the prosecution of any suits against William Armistead, for debts contracted by him on public account;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Claims.

An engrossed bill, "for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Dyer's warehouses;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Dyer's warehouses."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Heath do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "vesting a certain tract of public land in Thomas Payne and his heirs;" and that Messrs. Henry, Madison, and Isaac Zane, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, upon the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Henry presented, according to order, a bill "vesting certain tracts of public land, in Thomas Payne and his heirs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henderson reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the state of the accounts to be settled with the United States, in behalf of this Commonwealth, for the acquisition and protection of western territory; that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Your committee find that the accounts to be exhibited in behalf of this Commonwealth, against the United States, for the acquisition and protection of western territory, are far from being made up and prepared to be put into the hands of the commissioner appointed for the settlement thereof; and that as this business stands connected in its progress with the great mass in the auditor's office, it will not be so prepared for many months.

Your committee also find, that many persons, to whom sums of money were advanced, on account of the service aforesaid, have not yet accounted for the expenditure of the same.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive ought to be empowered to cause the auditors and all others on whom the business may, in any manner, depend, to pursue the most effectual measures for the

speedy preparing and putting the said accounts into the hands of the commissioner; that they authorise the employing any additional assistants in the public offices, which to them may seem necessary for this purpose; that they announce as soon as may be, to Congress, the appointment which hath been made of a commissioner on the part of this State, give him credentials under the seal of the Commonwealth, and from time to time cause to be advanced to the said commissioner, such sum, or sums of money, on account, as by them shall be thought necessary and proper.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said commissioner ought to be authorised and directed immediately to enter into and prosecute such correspondence with the executive, the different officers of this Commonwealth, and the commissioner appointed, or to be appointed by Congress, on the subject of the said accounts, as to him may seem useful.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henderson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Arthur Lee, praying that funds may be provided for the payment of 22,000 lbs. of tobacco, which are due to him for monies advanced from his private purse, for the purchase of military stores and clothing for the troops of this State; and for which he has received the promissory notes of the late commercial agent, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Philip Rohebleau, setting forth, that when the Illinois country was reduced by the troops under the command of Gen. Clarke, he was commandant thereof; that he was made prisoner, and has suffered great injury in his person and property; and praying relief, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Lee, praying that compensation may be made him for the damages done to his houses in the city of Williamsburg, by the troops of this State, whilst used by them, as barracks, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Ryan, praying that the treasurer may be authorised to receive from him the notes for two hogsheds of tobacco, which he received in part of his collection of taxes, as sheriff of the county of Henry, and which have been since burnt in the warehouses at Manchester, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Savary de Valcoulon, praying to be allowed damages and travelling expenses, as agent for Messrs. Colougnac and Company, in getting their claim against this State liquidated, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Cherry, setting forth, that he acted as commissary of provisions, under Gen. Clarke, in the Illinois country, in the year 1781, for which he has received no satisfaction, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to settle the petitioner's accounts, and grant him warrants for his pay, after discounting any monies which may have been advanced him by the public, to be carried to the account of the Illinois department.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Kemp, praying that his accounts for depreciation of pay and subsistence, due him for services as purveyor to the continental hospital in Williamsburg, under the appointment of Dr. Rickman, may be liquidated by the auditors of public accounts, and certificates granted him for the same, is reasonable; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Dr. John de Sequeyra, praying that his accounts as physician general to the hospital, established for lunatics in the city of Williamsburg, may be liquidated by the auditors, and warrants granted him for the same, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 6th, 7th and 8th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution reported from the committee of Claims, respecting Col. John Cropper, which lay on the table; and the same being read, was amended, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of John Cropper, jun. county lieutenant of Accomac, as prays that he may be reimbursed by the public, the sum of 105*l.* 5*d.* 3-4, by him advanced and expended in procuring necessary supplies for the militia and troops, whilst in service in the said county during the late war; and also, the further sum of 190*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* which he paid for the care and cure of sundry wounded prisoners, as well British as Americans, which he was compelled to do, being a prisoner with the enemy, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue their warrants in favor of the petitioner for the said sums of money, to be paid out of the money raised in the county of Accomac, under the act, "for recruiting this State's quota of men to serve in the continental army," and charged to the United States in account with this Commonwealth.

And the said resolution being again twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for appointing public notaries;" also, they have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by the Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "giving Nathaniel Twining the exclusive privilege of



conveying persons in a stage coach, for a limited time;" and "for imposing an additional duty of one and an half per centum on certain goods, wares and merchandizes." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Thomas Underwood, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the petition of Thomas Underwood, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he was sheriff of the county of Goochland, and attended several times at the treasury, with paper money and certificates to discharge the public taxes for that year, but was prevented from a settlement through the multiplicity of business, which induced him to leave his said collections in the treasury office; that they were soon after adjusted in his absence, and the paper money applied to his credit; but the certificates were returned to him: since which he has tendered them to the county court, in pursuance of the act for adjusting claims of that nature, who have referred them to the General Assembly; that after the said certificates were returned to him, he made good the value of them in paper money, and had the same applied to his credit; and there is now only a small balance due from him after deducting insolvents, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors do liquidate the petitioner's claims, and grant him certificates for the same, after deducting therefrom such balance as shall appear to be due from him to the public.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the distress of the one eighth per cent. tax on land for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "authorising the Executive to treat with certain tribes of Indians for a cession of lands claimed by them, and to provide for the protection of the superintendents and surveyors employed in locating and surveying the lands given as bounties to the army," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for incorporating the town of Petersburg, and for other purposes;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, respecting the conduct of the auditors, in not complying with a requisition of the Executive; which was read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it has been represented to this Assembly by James Rumsey and James McMechen, that they have discovered the art of constructing a boat of the burthen of ten tons, which shall sail or be propelled by the influence of certain mechanical powers thereto applied, the distance of between twenty-five and forty miles per day, against the current of a fresh water river, notwithstanding the velocity of the water, with the said burthen of ten tons on board; to be wrought at no greater expense than that of three hands. This Assembly being desirous of encouraging every effort of genius and industry which may tend to the public good;

*Resolved*, That upon the said James Rumsey and James McMechen perfecting such boat as above described, this Assembly will grant them or their heirs a sum adequate to the importance of the discovery.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, great inconveniences are found to result from the want of some concerted regulations between this State and the State of Maryland, touching the jurisdiction and navigation of the river Potomac;

*Resolved*, That George Mason, Edmund Randolph, James Madison, jun. and Alexander Henderson, Esquires, be appointed commissioners; and that they, or any three of them, do meet such commissioners as may be appointed on the part of Maryland; and, in concert with them, frame such liberal and equitable regulations concerning the said river, as may be mutually advantageous to the two States; and that they make report thereof, to the General Assembly.

*Resolved*, That the Executive be requested to notify the above appointment with the object of it, to the State of Maryland, and desire its concurrence in the proposition.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "vesting a certain tract of public land in Thomas Payne and his heirs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding on the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" and that the same be committed to Messrs. Tazewell, Kearnes, Corbin, Matthews and Hubbard.



A bill, "to suspend the distress for the one-eighth per cent. on land, for a limited time;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, June 30, 1784.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, directing the Executive to appoint commissioners to examine into impositions in the settlement of officers' and soldiers' accounts. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for ascertaining certain taxes and duties, and for establishing a permanent revenue;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of rider, "for appropriating the taxes arising therefrom, and directing when it shall commence."

And the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of rider.

*Resolved*, That the bill, with the rider, do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debt due foreign creditors."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "vesting a certain tract of public land in Thomas Payne, and his heirs;" was read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-day.

An engrossed bill, "authorising the Executive to treat with certain tribes of Indians for a cession of lands claimed by them, and to provide for the protection of the superintendents and surveyors employed in locating a and surveying the lands given as bounties to the army;" was read the third time;

And the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made on Thursday last to the bill "for establishing an inspection of hemp;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the treasurer pay to the order of the Executive out of the first money that shall arise under the law, "for recruiting this State's quota of men to serve in the continental army," any sum they may direct, for the purpose of procuring a statue of General Washington, and to defray the expenses of printing the revisal of the laws, conformable to resolutions of the present General Assembly.

And the said resolution being again twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be authorised to receive from the sheriffs of the different counties, all tobacco that were by law authorised to be paid in discharge of the revenue tax, and by them collected prior to the 15th of April last, and not before that time paid in.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee to whom the bill, "directing the sale of certain public lands," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported,

that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That a return of all the officers of the State line and navy, shall be made to the next Assembly; wherein the corps, when raised, the rank of each officer, the date of his commission, the number of men enlisted by each captain and subaltern, the number of men in each regiment or corps, number of men when reduced, and time when reduced, shall be particularly specified by a board of officers to be appointed by the Executive: *Provided,* that nothing herein expressed, shall extend to the officers of the first and second State regiments.

Whereas, by a resolution of the General Assembly, prohibiting the issuing land warrants, no provision was made for those who had or might obtain certificates of pre-emption rights; and it is just and reasonable that provision should be made for such cases;

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That where any person is possessed of a certificate of pre-emption right, granted before the first day of May, in the present year, the register be directed to issue a warrant in the same manner as if the said resolution had never passed.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “to invest the United States in Congress assembled, with additional powers, for a limited time;” and “for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Dymer's warehouses;” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Heath do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled ‘an act for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;’” also, they have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by the Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to suspend the distress for the one per cent. tax on land, for a limited time;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered,* That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “vesting a certain tract of public land in Thomas Payne, and his heirs;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Marshall reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the bill “to prohibit the prosecution of any suits against William Armistead, for debts contracted by him on public account, was committed; that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had directed him to report the same, without amendment.

*Ordered,* That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, “for establishing an inspection of hemp;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act for establishing an inspection of hemp.”

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “directing the sale of certain public lands;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes.”

*Ordered,* That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, June 30, 1784.

An engrossed bill, “vesting a certain tract of public land in Thomas Payne, and his heirs;” was read the third time.

And the question being put, that the said bill do pass;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

An engrossed bill, "to prohibit the prosecution of suits against William Armistead, for debts contracted by him on public account;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prohibit the prosecution of suits against William Armistead, for debts contracted by him on public account."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the distress for the one per cent. tax on land, for a limited time;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to suspend the distress of the one per cent. tax on land, for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for selling the public land in the county of Northampton, called the Secretary's land; and applying part of the money arising therefrom, to the purchase of a tract to be vested in Thomas Payne, and his heirs;" and that Messrs. Madison and Henderson do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the solicitor be, and he is hereby directed, as soon as may be, to state and make up an account against the United States, for the aggregate amount of the different kinds of specifics, furnished by this State for continental uses, extending the prices thereof agreeably to the resolutions of Congress; and to state an account against the United States, for the expenses of the militia of this State, called into service during the invasions of North and South Carolina, as well as this State by the enemy, during the late war; and to enable him to make up such accounts in the most expeditious manner, he is authorised to appoint a clerk for that purpose, who shall receive the same allowance, for the time he shall necessarily be engaged in the business, as is given to a clerk in the auditor's office.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Henry Sadler, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the petition of Henry Sadler, praying that he may receive payment of a bill of exchange, drawn by the agent of this State in favor of the petitioner, for a quantity of merchandize sold him for the public use, in the year 1780, which bill has been protested, ought to be referred to the Executive for their settlement; and after having ascertained the sum due to the petitioner, that the governor direct the auditors to issue their warrants for the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That the public printer be directed to strike off immediately, forty-eight copies of the act "to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act, giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" to be distributed among the members of the General Assembly.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly, for their services during the present session:

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
To the Reverend Benjamin Blagrove, at the rate of	-	-	-	per week.
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates,	10	0	0	"
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate,	17	10	0	"
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, clerk of the committees for Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances,	15	0	0	"
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees for Religion, Courts of Justice, Claims, and Commerce,	12	0	0	"
To Mr. Charles Hay, for services to sundry committees,	25	0	0	
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, sergeant at arms to the House of Delegates,	10	0	0	"
To Mr. William Pierce, sergeant at arms to the Senate,	10	0	0	"
To William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, John Hicks and William Drinkard, jun. door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each	4	10	0	"
To William Hicks and Thomas Paul, door-keepers to the Senate, each	4	10	0	"
To Elizabeth Jones, for taking care of and cleaning the capitol,	10	0	0	
To Zenas Tate, keeper of the public buildings,	9	0	0	

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for selling the public land in the county of Northampton, called the Secretary's land, and applying part of the money arising therefrom, to the purchase of a tract, to be vested in Thomas Payne, and his heirs;" and the same was received and read the first time.

And the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time;



It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills, “to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors;” and “to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That the public printer strike off immediately as many copies of the act “imposing an additional duty on goods, wares and merchandizes,” as the Executive may direct; to be by them transmitted to the several naval officers and collectors in this Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for establishing an inspection of hemp.” And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed, to liquidate the claim of Mark, Nephew and Son, and grant a warrant for a sum not exceeding one half of the said claim, to be paid out of the fund arising from the act for compelling the delinquent counties to pay the one-eighth per cent. tax; *Provided*, That such payment do not interfere with the former appropriation of the said tax; and if the said fund shall not prove sufficient to make the said payment, that the treasurer pay the deficiency out of any unappropriated money which may come into his hands.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That it be a standing order of this House, that no petition shall be received claiming a sum of money, or praying a settlement of unliquidated accounts, unless it be accompanied with a certificate, either from the Executive or board of auditors, that the said claim had been laid before them respectively, and containing the reasons why they refused to settle the same; *Provided*, That this order shall not extend in any person applying for a pension.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the public printer be directed to strike off immediately, one hundred copies of the foregoing order, to be distributed amongst the members of the General Assembly, and by them dispersed throughout the State.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution, for liquidating the accounts of William Armistead; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed to make a statement of the public debts, that the committee had, according to order, proceeded on the same, and made some progress therein, but from the state of the books in the different public offices, and the multiplicity of business at present before the auditors, the committee had not been able to procure such official information as could enable them to complete the same: Your committee further report, that Mr. Charles Hay, who was appointed to act as clerk to them, not having it in his power to attend to this business, they employed Mr. Bernard Webb, to collect and copy the necessary papers, in which he has shewn a commendable degree of diligence, relying on this House to make him proper compensation for his trouble: Your committee are further of opinion, that the auditors cannot produce all the accounts and information requisite to complete this business in any short time, without having it in their power to employ a clerk for this particular purpose: And it appears to your committee, that the same person who acts as clerk to this committee, may, by having access to the auditor's books, draw off the proper statements, and may also arrange them and copy the same in a book conformable to the method agreed on by your committee, and thereby save the public the expense of employing more than one clerk in this business.

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolution :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts make out a statement of all the debts due by this Commonwealth, of which the accounts are kept in their office, arranging the same under their proper heads; and that they be empowered to employ Mr. Webb, or any other fit person, as a clerk, to assist in preparing the said statement, and that he be paid for his trouble therein, adequate to the services he may perform; and that the statement aforesaid, be laid before the General Assembly at their next meeting.

*Resolved*, That the solicitor general be directed to collect the books and accounts of the several commercial agents of this State, and make a return to the General Assembly at their next meeting, of the balances due on those books, specifying how much thereof is due to persons not citizens of this State.

And the said report being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the report to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "directing the sale of certain public lands;" also, to the resolutions, respecting the navigation of the river Potomac; for reimbursing Col. John Cropper, a sum of money by him expended on public account; and respecting Thomas Underwood. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to suspend the distress for the one per cent. tax on land, for a limited time," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Resolved*, That when this House doth adjourn to-day, it will adjourn until the third Monday in October next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors be empowered to proceed in auditing and adjusting officers' and soldiers' claims for pay and depreciation, which may be presented to them before the second day of the next month; any thing in a former resolution of the present session to the contrary notwithstanding.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for liquidating the accounts of Mark, Nephew and Son; of Dr. John de Sequeyra; and of William Cherry; respecting a boat to be constructed by James Rumsey and James McMechen; for referring Henry Sadler's claims to the Executive; directing the solicitor to make up and state an account of specifics furnished the United States by this State; directing the register to issue land warrants upon preemption certificates; directing a return of the officers of the State line and navy to the next Assembly; directing the treasurer to pay to the order of the Executive, a sum of money for procuring a statue of Gen. Washington, and for printing the revised laws; for making the allowances to the officers of the General Assembly; and directing the auditors to state the debts of this Commonwealth, arranging them under their proper heads with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate insist upon their amendments, disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to suspend the distress for the one per cent. tax on land, for a limited time. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments, disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to suspend the distress of the one per cent. tax on land, for a limited time;" also, they have agreed to the resolution directing the auditors to proceed in adjusting officers' and soldiers' claims for pay and depreciation, until the second day of the next month. And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by the Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker then signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to confirm to Anne and Margaret Rose, their freedom and interest under the will of Walter Robinson, deceased."

"An act, to establish a town on the land of Francis Conway, in the county of King George."

"An act, to establish a town on the lands of Catesby Jones, in the county of Westmoreland."

"An act, for establishing a new ferry."

"An act, giving certain lands to Hampden Sydney College, in the county of Prince Edward."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to establish certain and adequate funds, for the redemption of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers, for their arrears of pay and depreciation.'"

"An act, to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements thereon, and the number of people within this Commonwealth."

[~~¶~~ Here the Clerk omitted recording any further proceedings of this session.]





# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND,

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE EIGHTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR  
LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR.*

---

RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

.....  
1828.

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

# JOURNAL

## OF THE

### HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

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#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*BEGUN and held at the public buildings in the City of Richmond, on Monday, the eighteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four; being the second session of this present General Assembly.*

THE House of Delegates met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

TUESDAY, October 19, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

THURSDAY, October 21, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
On a motion made,  
*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear, were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody, John Cropper, jun. and Thomas Paramore, members for the county of Accomac; Wilson Cary Nicholas and Edward Carter, members for the county of Albemarle; Michael Bowyer and Zachariah Johnston, members for the county of Augusta; John Trigg, one of the members for the county of Bedford; Moscs Hunter and Adam Stephen, members for the county of Berkeley; George Hancock, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Thomas Edmunds and Thomas Chiborne, members for the county of Brunswick; John Nicholas, jun. and Charles Patteson, members for the county of Buck-



ingham; John Ward, one of the members for the county of Campbell; Thomas Collier, one of the members for the county of Charlotte; Carter Henry Harrison, one of the members for the county of Cumberland; French Strother and James Pendleton, members for the county of Culpeper; William Watkins and Joseph Jones, members for the county of Dinwiddie; Miles King, one of the members for the county of Elizabeth City; Spencer Roane and William Gatewood, members for the county of Essex; Alexander Henderson and Thomas West, members for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; John Mosby and John Crittenden, members for the county of Fayette; Alexander White, one of the members for the county of Frederick; Alexander Donnelly and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; James Wall and Batte Peterson, members for the county of Greensville; Isaac Coles and John Coleman, members for the county of Halifax; Ralph Humphreys and Isaac Vanmiter, members for the county of Hampshire; Garland Anderson, one of the members for the county of Hanover; Patrick Henry and Peter Saunders, members for the county of Henry; John Scasbrook Wills and Robert Marshall, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Philip Barbour, one of the members for the county of Jefferson; Edmund Byne, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of King William; John Heath and John Berryman, members for the county of Lancaster; Richard Bland Lee and Francis Peyton, members for the county of Loudoun; William White, one of the members for the county of Louisa; Anthony Street and John Glenn, members for the county of Lunenburg; John Logan, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Benjamin Wilson and Francis Worman, members for the county of Monongalia; Robert Sayers and John Breckenridge, members for the county of Montgomery; Willis Riddick and Kinchen Godwin, members for the county of Nansemond; John Kearnes and Daniel Sandford, members for the county of Norfolk; Littleton Eyre and Bennett Tompkins, members for the county of Northampton; John Thornton, one of the members for the county of Northumberland; Ebenezer Zane and David Shepherd, members for the county of Ohio; James Madison, jun. and Charles Porter, members for the county of Orange; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Edmund Ruffin, one of the members for the county of Prince George; John Ackiss and Thomas Walke, members for the county of Princess Anne; Alexander Scott Bullitt, one of the members for the county of Prince William; Landon Carter, one of the members for the county of Richmond; John Bowyer and John Hayes, members for the county of Rockbridge; Gawin Hamilton and John Hopkins, members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Abraham Keller, members for the county of Shenandoah; John Taylor and Albrington Jones, members for the county of Southampton; Thomas Edmunds and John Howell Briggs, members for the county of Sussex; Wilson Miles Cary and John Langhorn, members for the county of Warwick; Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; William Russell and James Montgomery, members for the county of Washington; Joseph Prentis, one of the members for the county of York; and Thomas Matthews, a member for the borough of Norfolk.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, October 22, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till Monday next, 12 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, October 25, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
On a motion made,  
*Resolved*, That the order of the House on Thursday last, for taking the delinquent members into custody, be rescinded; and that such of said delinquents as are now in custody, be admitted to their seats without paying fees.  
There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### TUESDAY, October 26, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, October 27, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, October 28, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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FRIDAY, October 29, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;  
But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, October 30, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Edward Carter, one of the members for the county of Albemarle; Michael Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Augusta; Moses Hunter and Adam Stephen, members for the county of Berkeley; Charles Patteson, one of the members for the county of Buckingham; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Miles King, one of the members for the county of Elizabeth City; Alexander Henderson and Thomas West, members for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; John Mosby, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Alexander White, one of the members for the county of Frederick; Andrew Donnelly and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; James Wall, one of the members for the county of Greenville; Isaac Vanmiter, one of the members for the county of Hampshire; Peter Saunders, one of the members for the county of Henry; John Scasbrook Wills and Robert Marshall, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Edmund Byne, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; John Logan, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Benjamin Wilson and Francis Worman, members for the county of Monongalia; Robert Sayers and John Breckenridge, members for the county of Montgomery; Willis Riddick and Kinchen Godwin, members for the county of Nansemond; John Kearnes and Daniel Sandford, members for the county of Norfolk; Bennett Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton; Ebenezer Zane and David Shepherd, members for the county of Ohio; James Madison, jun. and Charles Porter, members for the county of Orange; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; John Ackiss, one of the members for the county of Princess Anne; Alexander S. Bullitt, one of the members for the county of Prince William; Landon Carter, one of the members for the county of Richmond; John Bowyer and John Hayes, members for the county of Rockbridge; John Hopkins, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; Isaac Zane and Abraham Keller, members for the county of Shenandoah; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; William Brent, one of the members for the county of Stafford; John Langhorne, one of the members for the county of Warwick; and William Russell and James Montgomery, members for the county of Washington.

A majority of the whole number of members being present;

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Benjamin Blagrove, be appointed chaplain to this House, and that he attend and read prayers in the House every morning, at the time appointed by a standing order of the House.

*Ordered*, That William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, John Hicks and William Drinkard, jun. be appointed door-keepers to this House, and that they give their attendance accordingly.

And then the House adjourned till Monday next, 12 o'clock.

MONDAY, November 1, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. John Kearnes, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; and Mr. James Madison, jun. one of the members for the county of Orange; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Kearnes, and James Madison, jun. be admitted to their seats on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Edward Carter, one of the members for the county of Albemarle; and Mr. John Hopkins, one of the members for the county of Rockingham; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Edward Carter and John Hopkins, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of the members who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employments in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations;

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Michael Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Augusta; Moses Hunter and Adam Stephen, members for the county of Berkeley; Charles Peyton, one of the members for the county of Buckingham; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Miles King, one of the members for the county of Elizabeth City; Alexander Henderson and Thomas West, members for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; John Mosby, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Alexander White, one of the members for the county of Frederick; Andrew Donnelly and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; James Wall, one of the members for the county of Greenville; Isaac Vanmiter, one of the members for the county of Hampshire; Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Peter Saunders, one of the members for the county of Henry; John Scasbrook Wills and Robert Marshall, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Edmund Byne, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; Benjamin Temple and William Dandridge Claiborne, members for the county of King William; Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; William Anderson, one of the members for the county of Louisa; John Logan, one of the members for the county of Lincoln; Benjamin Wilson and Francis Worman, members for the county of Monongalia; Robert Sayres and John Breckenridge, members for the county of Montgomery; Willis Riddick and Kinchen Godwin, members for the county of Nansemond; William Armistead and John Watkins, members for the county of New Kent; Daniel Sandford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; Bennett Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton; Ebenezer Zane and David Shepherd, members for the county of Ohio; Charles Porter, one of the members for the county of Orange; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; John Ackiss, one of the members for the county of Princess Anne; Alexander Scott Bullitt, one of the members for the county of Prince William; Landon Carter, one of the members for the county of Richmond; John Bowyer and John Hayes, members for the county of Rockbridge; Isaac Zane and Abraham Keller, members for the county of Shenandoah; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; William Brent, one of the members for the county of Stafford; John Langhorne, one of the members for the county of Warwick; and William Russell and James Montgomery, members for the county of Washington.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to take into their consideration the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating several matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Norvell, Johnson, Carter Henry Harrison, Henry, Madison, William Watkins, Garland Anderson, Strother, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Ruffin, Markham, Sherwin, Ward, Wray and Clarke; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be from time to time referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Tazewell, Richard Lee, Johnson, Carter Henry Harrison, Madison, Norvell, Thomas Mann Randolph, Underwood, Matthews, Prentis, Nicholas Cabell, William Watkins, Mayo, Ruffin, Towles, Coles, and Thomas Smith; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place, all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and to compare the same with the form prescribed by law, and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question, touching elections and privileges, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, from time to time, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.



*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections to be heard at the bar of this House, or before the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do, either by themselves or their agents, within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House, or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to who voted for the sitting members, giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters objected to; and that the sitting members do, by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the like lists on their parts to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tazewell, Carter Henry Harrison, Matthews, Prentis, Henry, Norvell, Southall, Wilkerson, Strother, William Watkins, Thomas Mann Randolph, Underwood, Edward Carter, Towles, Clarke, Street, Hancock, John Marshall, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Sherwin, Booker, Meredith, Thomas Smith, John Nicholas, Kearnes, Ward, Hawes, William Thornton, Gaskins, Morton, Markham, Cheatham, Pendleton, Wray, Roane, Gatewood, Richardson, Humphreys, Heath, Berryman, Walker, Richard Bland Lee, Street, Eyre, Ruffin, Bland, John Thornton, Fauntleroy, Albrington Jones, Carter Bassett Harrison, Allen, Nelson, Corbin, Curtis, Edmunds of Sussex, Briggs, Peterson, Coleman, Bibb, John Clarke, Barbour, Cropper, Pope, Crittenden, Slaughter, Walke, Hamilton, Hopkins, Lankford and Trigg; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all propositions and grievances that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and all such propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of the House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Madison, Tazewell, John Marshall, Stuart, Prentis, Roane, Carter Bassett Harrison, Heath, Briggs, Corbin, and Richard Bland Lee; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters relating to Courts of Justice, and such other matters as shall be, from time to time, referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and also, examine what laws have expired since the last session, and report the same to the House, with their opinions, which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Claims be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, Thomas Mann Randolph, Underwood, William Watkins, Strother, Nicholas Cabell, Mayo, Sherwin, Pendleton, Coleman, Robert Clarke, Bibb, Barbour, Heath, Nelson, Hawes, Lankford and Trigg; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all public claims referred from the last to this session of Assembly; and all matters that shall be, from time to time, to them referred; and report their proceedings, with their opinions thereupon, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Commerce be appointed.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Matthews, William Watkins, Henry, Madison, Wray, Ruffin, Kearnes, Bland, Nelson, Corbin, and Edward Carter; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all such matters and things relative to the trade, manufactures and commerce of this Commonwealth, as shall, from time to time, be referred to them, and to report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon; and also, occasionally, such improvements as in their judgment may be made in the commerce and manufactures of this State, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances, seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections, and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to make a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmund Pendleton, jun. be appointed clerk to the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Charles Hay, to the committees for Religion and Courts of Justice; and Mr. Adam Craik, to the committees of Claims and Commerce.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, November 2, 1784.

The House being informed, that Mr. John Scasbrook Wills, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; Mr. Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; and Mr. Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; are in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Scasbrook Wills, Joseph Jones and Isaac Coles, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A petition of John Banister, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed sheriff

of the county of Dinwiddie, upon the death of the late sheriff, and qualified under his commission, on the 18th ultimo; that his predecessor having neglected to make his first part of the public collection of taxes for the said county, there is not time sufficient for the petitioner to accomplish the same; and praying that further time may be granted him for that purpose.

Also, a petition of George Slaughter; setting forth, that he acted in various ranks in the continental and State lines, during the late war, upwards of four years; and praying to be allowed a bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Susanna Farmar, widow and relict of Samuel Farmar, deceased; setting forth, that her husband was one of the unfortunate sufferers at the destruction of Norfolk in 1776, and being of an advanced age and very infirm, retired to Bermudas, where he died; and by his last will, devised to the petitioner all his lands in the said borough of Norfolk, which, since the peace, she has returned to take possession of, but finds the same escheated to the Commonwealth; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Walker; setting forth, that they are entitled to sundry lands on the western waters, under Orders of Council, which were surveyed in the years 1753 and 1754, and have been confirmed to the petitioners by the decision of the Court of Appeals, but are now settled upon and claimed by other persons; that the register has refused to receive the same in the Land Office, without the approbation of the Legislature; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Hoomes; setting forth, that encouraged by the precedent established by the Legislature in the case of Nathaniel Twining, he has at a very great expense, established a line of stages from Richmond to Hampton and Portsmouth, and to Petersburg; and praying to be allowed the exclusive privilege of continuing the same.

Also, a petition of John Willoughby; setting forth, that he was sheriff of the county of Norfolk, in the year 1782, and from the distresses of the people and scarcity of specie, fell short of his collection of the public taxes about 400*l.* for which judgment is obtained against him by the solicitor, with damages, interest and costs; that he has discharged his utmost duty to complete the collection by attachment and distress of the people's property, and has actually paid 172*l.* of the said deficiency out of his own pocket; and praying to be relieved against the said damages.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the Loan Office certificates granted them for the value of their houses and other property destroyed in the said borough, by order of Convention, may be called in, and other specie certificates granted them in lieu thereof, bearing an interest of five per cent.; the said interest to be made payable in public taxes.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of David Scott, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was a captain in the 13th Virginia regiment, commanded by Colonel Gibson, and in an engagement with the Indians at the Salt Lick towns, received a wound, which has deprived him of the use of his right arm; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Gilmer; praying to be reimbursed for the maintenance and expense incurred in the cure of sundry wounds received by his son, Samuel Gilmer, in the defeat of Colonel Buford, at the Hanging Rock.

Also, a petition of James Shurlock; setting forth, that he was interpreter to General Clarke's regiment, from the year 1778, until it was disbanded; and that the auditors have refused to grant him the usual military certificates for his services; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Sylvanus Prince; setting forth, that he is administrator to George Prince, deceased, who had a horse impressed into the public service for the use of Major Nelson's cavalry, in the late war, for which no certificate or allowance has been granted; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Jacob Valentine; setting forth, that whilst acting on duty as an officer in the late war, he contracted a disorder by the severity of the service, which deprived him of the sight of one eye, and reduced him to great distress; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections;" and that Messrs. William Watkins, Heath, Henry, Madison, Marshall, Gaskins, Stuart and Hawes, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, stating further matters for the consideration of the General Assembly, and referring to several letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House being informed that Mr. William Armistead, one of the members for the county of New Kent, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Armistead be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, November 3, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Willis Riddick, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; Mr. John Hays, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; Mr. John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Mr. Bennett Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Willis Riddick, John Hays, John Taylor and Bennett Tompkins, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Daniel Sandford, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Daniel Sandford be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to establish a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt;" and that Messrs. Stuart, Heath, and Zachariah Johnston, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Norvell, and Taylor of Southampton, be added to the committee of Claims; and Mr. Thomas Claiborne, to the committees of Claims, and Propositions and Grievances.

A petition of Ralph Humphreys, was presented to the House and read; praying that a public ferry may be established across the south-branch of Potomac river, in the county of Hampshire, on the lands of the petitioner.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Jefferson, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they labor under many inconveniences from the great extent of the said county; and praying that an act may pass, for dividing the same into two distinct counties.

Also, a petition of Augustine Slaughter; setting forth, that he served as a surgeon to the 7th Virginia regiment, from its formation, until its dissolution in February 1779, when it was incorporated into another regiment: in consequence of which he became a supernumerary; and praying to be allowed a surgeon's bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Charles May, late sheriff of Buckingham county; setting forth, that from the destruction of the warehouses at Manchester (where the people of the said county principally deposited their tobacco) he has been totally unable to complete the collection of the public taxes for the year 1783, for which a judgment has been obtained against him in the General Court; and praying that the same may be suspended, until the people are enabled to pay the said taxes.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That for preserving the tranquillity of our western inhabitants, speedy and exemplary punishment ought to be inflicted on every person doing injury to the subjects of Spain or the Indians in that quarter; and that proper laws for that purpose ought to be enacted.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That it is essential to the prosperity and happiness of the western inhabitants of this Commonwealth, to enjoy the right of navigating the river Mississippi to the sea, and that the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to move that honorable body to give directions, (unless the same have been already given to the American ministers in Europe) to forward negotiations to obtain that end, without loss of time.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, be further instructed to urge in Congress the necessity of forwarding proper treaties between the United States and the several nations of Indians in the Southern department.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive be requested to forward a copy of the letter from Col. Martin to the Governor, with other papers on the same subject, to the delegates in Congress, to be by them laid before Congress, together with the foregoing instructions.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly "establishing a board of auditors," ought to be revised and amended, and a method devised, directing the statement of public accounts.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that Messrs. Matthews, Madison, Henry, Stuart, Corbin, Barbour and Johnson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 5th resolution; and that Messrs. William Watkins, Henry, Madison, Roane, Matthews, Norvell, Strother, Carter Henry Harrison and Garland Anderson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, be discharged from reporting from the Journals of the last



session of Assembly, the several petitions and propositions then depending and undetermined; and that all such petitions and propositions be delivered by the clerk of course, to the proper committees.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 4, 1784.

The House being informed that Messrs. Andrew Donnelly and George Clendinnen, members for the county of Greenbrier; Mr. John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; and Mr. William Anderson, one of the members for the county of Louisa; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Andrew Donnelly, George Clendinnen, John Taylor and William Anderson, be admitted to their seats on paying fees.

The House being informed that Messrs. Benjamin Temple and William Dandridge Claiborne, members for the county of King William, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence, when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Benjamin Temple and William Dandridge Claiborne, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the appointment of trustees for the town of York;" and that Messrs. Prentis, Nelson and Heath, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from proceeding on the petition of Susanna Farmer, to them referred; and that the said petition be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of John Banister, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Banister, as sheriff of the county of Dinwiddie, praying a further time may be allowed him for the collection of the public taxes due for the present year, within the said county, be rejected.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Augustine Slaughter, to them referred, and agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner entered into the service as surgeon to the 7th Virginia regiment, in April 1796, and continued therein until the month of February 1779, when by an arrangement of the army, he became a supernumerary surgeon.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner, whilst this State was invaded by the British army, was repeatedly in service as surgeon to the militia ordered out on duty.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Augustine Slaughter, praying that a bounty in lands may be granted him, is reasonable; and that he be allowed the like quantity as is by law given to a surgeon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to oblige the county court clerks to keep the records of the county within the same; and that Messrs. Heath, Richard Lee and Carter Henry Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of David Scott, late a captain in the 13th Virginia regiment, praying relief in consideration of a wound which he received in his arm, in an engagement with the Indians at the Salt Lick towns, in the year 1779, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Shurlock, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be empowered to issue military certificates in his favor, for the amount of his pay as interpreter to General Clarke's troops, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue the same accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee, do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Stuart presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the colonel of Harrison county; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1776, Kemp's warehouses upon Pianketank river, were accidentally burnt; since which, they have labored under many disadvantages for the want of the same; and praying that an act may pass for re-establishing an inspection of tobacco at or near the same place.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince George, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that an act may pass, for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Hood's, upon James river.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Sussex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince George, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the enemy having destroyed the courthouse and other public buildings of the said county; and it being necessary to rebuild the same, they conceive the town of Blandford a more convenient situation than the present one; and praying that an act may pass for altering the place of holding the court of the said county; and for fixing it in the said town.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Orange, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that great inconvenience and injustice hath arisen from the construction of several clauses in the land law, respecting the location upon an adjacent residuum, after a prior entry upon adjoining lands, as also from the collusions and illegal practices between the principal surveyors and their deputies, whereby many persons are defeated of their just rights, and others put to great expense and trouble in obtaining titles to their lands; and praying that the said law may be revised and amended.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Isle of Wight, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are much concerned to see the countenance of the civil power wholly withdrawn from religion, and the people left without the smallest coercion to contribute to its support; that they consider it as the duty of a wise Legislature to encourage its progress, and diffuse its influence; that being thoroughly convinced that the prosperity and happiness of this country essentially depends on the progress of religion, they beg leave to call the attention of the Legislature to a principle, old as society itself, that whatever is to conduce equally to the advantage of all, should be borne equally by all; and praying that an act may pass to compel every one to contribute something, in proportion to his property, to the support of religion.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Martin Murphey, was presented to the House, and read; praying to be put on the list of pensioners, in consideration of wounds received in the service of his country.

Also, a petition of Daniel Clarke; praying to be paid the principal and interest of a liquidated claim against the public.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Governor, with the advice of the Council, ought to be empowered to suspend, so long as the occasion may require, the surveying, inhabiting, or occupying all the lands lately given in bounty to the officers and soldiers of this State, which are situate on the northwest side of the Ohio river, or below the mouth of Tennessee river, if the preservation of public tranquillity shall render such suspension necessary.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Matthews, Henry, Madison, Carrington and Prentiss, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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FRIDAY, November 5, 1784.

A bill, "for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

Mr. Prentis presented, according to order, a bill "for the appointment of trustees for the town of York;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Joseph Jones of King George, and Mr. Wilson Cary Nicholas, be added to the committee for Courts of Justice; and Mr. Carrington, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections."

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of Council, be requested to adopt such measures as may be found necessary, to avert the danger of hostilities with the Indians, and to incline them to treat with the commissioners of Congress, and for that purpose to draw on the treasury for any sum of money not exceeding 1,000*l.* which shall stand charged to the account of money issued for the contingent charges of government.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of John Lynch, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is possessed of an advantageous situation for a town in the county of Campbell, upon James river, at the place called Lynch's ferry; that he has laid off the same for a town, and praying that an act may pass to establish the same.

Also, a petition of Alexander Mackay, and Jane, his wife; setting forth, that they are the representatives of Alexander McKenzie, who served as a captain under Major Grant, and was killed in the year 1758; that after many delays they have at length obtained a warrant for the land to which he was entitled, but not until all the good lands on which the said warrant might be located were taken up; and praying that they may be permitted to locate the same in the district set apart for the bounties of the officers and soldiers.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several acts of Assembly, for the appointment of naval officers, and declaring their duty, ought to be revised and amended, and reduced into one act.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the several acts of Assembly, imposing duties on imports, and ascertaining the mode of collection, ought to be revised and amended; and that a comptroller, or comptrollers of the customs, ought to be appointed for their better collection.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Matthews, Tazewell, Jones of King George, Marshall, Madison, Kearnes and Wray, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same to the payment of the debts due to foreign creditors,'" and that Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Carrington, Richard Lee, Matthews, Stuart, Briggs, Edmunds of Sussex, Thomas Smith, and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Charles May, late sheriff of Buckingham county; setting forth, that in consequence of the destruction of the Rocky Ridge warehouses, he has been unable to collect the public taxes within the said county, from the inability of the people to render payment of the same by reason of the loss of their tobacco within the said warehouses; and praying a temporary suspension of judgment obtained against him by the solicitor general, by reason of his said default, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Ralph Humphreys, praying that a ferry may be established from his land in the county of Hampshire, over the south branch of the river Potomac, to the lands of \_\_\_\_\_ on the opposite side, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, praying the re-establishment of a warehouse at Kemp's, upon Pianketank river, which was accidentally burnt down in the year 1776, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Jefferson, praying a division of the said county, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in, pursuant to the 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of George Slaughter to them referred, and had



agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and is as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said George Slaughter served in the capacity of major in the 8th Virginia regiment, on continental establishment, upwards of two years; that his state of health obliged him to resign his commission in the said regiment; that on the recovery of his health, he served in an Indian expedition under Colonel Shelby; that on his return, he accepted a majority in one of the State regiments, raised for the defence of the western frontiers, in which service he continued upwards of two years, until the corps were regularly discharged;

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said George Slaughter, praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the like quantity as is by law given to a major.

The said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carrington be added to the committee for Courts of Justice; Mr. Jones of King George, to the committee for Religion; and Mr. Edmunds of Sussex, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for providing against invasions and insurrections."

A petition of John Bell was presented to the House, and read; praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, in consideration of military services rendered during the late war.

*Ordered,* That the said petition do lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, November 6, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered,* That the said William Pickett be admitted to his seat without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Stuart do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for the appointment of trustees for the town of York," was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Martin Murphy, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Martin Murphy, late a sergeant in the Virginia line, praying relief in consideration of several wounds which he received whilst in service, and which have rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Daniel Clarke, to them referred; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Hoomes, to them referred, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said John Hoomes, praying that an act may pass, giving him the exclusive right of conveying persons in stage coaches, from the city of Richmond to Hampton, Portsmouth and Petersburg, for the term of three years, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution reported from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, respecting George Slaughter, which was ordered to lie on the table; and the same being read, is as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said George Slaughter served in the capacity of major in the 8th Virginia regiment, on continental establishment, upwards of two years; that his ill state of health obliged him to resign his commission in the said regiment; that on the recovery of his health, he served in an Indian expedition under

Colonel Shelby; and on his return he accepted a majority in one of the State regiments raised for the defence of the western frontiers, in which service he continued upwards of two years, and until the corps was regularly discharged.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said George Slaughter, praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the like quantity as is by law given to a major.

And the said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the petition of John Bell, which was ordered to lie on the table, be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session of Assembly, or are near expiring; and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1762, entitled "an act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" which was continued and amended by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, to ascertain the losses and injuries sustained from the depredations of the enemy within this Commonwealth;" which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought not to be further continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed in the year 1782, entitled "an act, concerning pensioners;" which was continued by several subsequent acts, and will expire at the end of the present session of Assembly, ought to be further continued and amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed at the last session of Assembly, entitled "an act, to ascertain the quantity of land, the improvements thereon, and the number of people within this Commonwealth;" ought to be amended.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the great extent of the county subjects them to many inconveniences, which would be removed by a division of the same; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of David Jones, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1777, he was appointed an attendant of the hospital at York town, and continued in that service until the year 1780; that although he has proper certificates ascertaining the time he was in service, and the allowance he was entitled to, yet the auditors have refused to make him any allowance for the same; and praying that they may be directed to settle his accounts, and grant him a warrant for the balance.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nicholas Cabell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That this House will not hereafter receive any petition for a military bounty in lands from, nor grant such bounty to, any person whatsoever, who has not served three years, as directed by the act in that case.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the resolution be rejected.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, November 8, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for appointing trustees for the town of York;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, appointing trustees for the town of York."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Pope do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to oblige the county court clerks to keep the records of the county within the same;" be discharged therefrom.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and for the better security of county records;" and that Messrs. Heath, Strother, Thomas Smith, Wilson Cary Nicholas, and Prentiss, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of William Finnie, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was appointed deputy quarter-master general by Congress in the southern department; and also, quarter-master general of this State by the Executive, with the rank and pay of a colonel in the line; and praying to be allowed the same bounty in land, pay and other emoluments, as are allowed by law to a full colonel.

Also, a petition of James Runsey; setting forth, that he has invented a boat upon a new construction, which, with the help of certain mechanical powers, can be propelled against the stream of a rapid river; and praying to be allowed an exclusive privilege of constructing and navigating such boats for a term of years, or that a premium may be granted him for the same.

Also, a petition of Henry Martin, jun.; setting forth, that great inconveniences arise to travellers and others, from the want of a ferry over the north fork of James river; and praying that an act may pass to establish such a ferry on the lands of the petitioner.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Heath presented, according to order, a bill "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and for the better security of county records;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees.'"

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

TUESDAY, November 9, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Charles Porter, one of the members for the county of Orange; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Charles Porter be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and for the better security of the public records;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a general return of arms and ammunition, and letters of intelligence from Col. Martin, the Indian agent; which were read.

*Ordered*, That the return of arms and ammunition, do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the letters from Col. Martin, be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A memorial of Osgood Gee, of the city of London, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that previous to the late war, he was proprietor of part of certain lands and iron works in the county of Stafford, known by the name of Acco creek, on the Potomac, which have been confiscated, as being the property of a British subject; that the memorialist always discovered himself a friend to the cause of liberty and America, and ever set himself in opposition to the measures of administration; and praying that the said property may be restored to him, or that he receive the money arising from the sale thereof.

Also, a petition and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they feel themselves deeply affected by certain resolutions of the last Assembly, respecting an infraction of the treaty of peace, which they conceive have an obvious tendency to introduce anarchy and confusion in our public Councils, and to subvert the basis of the confederation, arrogating to this State that power of peace and war, which of right belongs to Congress; and praying that the said resolutions may be rescinded.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial and petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Philip Barbour, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1780, he



furnished the regiment commanded by General Clarke, with a quantity of goods, for which the commissioners for settling the western accounts, have ascertained the balance due to him; and praying that he may receive immediate payment of the interest, and that provision may be made for payment of the principal, at a future period.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hanover and Henrico, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that a dividing line may be run between the said counties, along the main branch of Chickahominy swamp, which has hitherto been considered as the boundary between the said counties.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Jones, deputy sheriff of the county of Greenville; setting forth, that from the inclemency of the winter he was unable to complete the collection of the taxes for the year 1783; in consequence of which, a judgment was obtained against the high sheriff of the said county, with interest; and praying that the said damages may be remitted.

Also, a petition of William Barrett, sheriff of James City county; setting forth, that notwithstanding every exertion to complete the collection of the taxes for the year 1783, he was unable to do it, and a judgment has been obtained for the balance, with interest and damages; and praying that the damages may be remitted.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### WEDNESDAY, November 20, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. John King, one of the members for the county of Elizabeth City; and Mr. Thomas West, one of the members for the county of Fairfax, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John King and Thomas West, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. William Russell, one of the members for the county of Washington, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on the 1st instant;

*Ordered*, That the said William Russell be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Culpeper and Orange, praying that actual surveys meant to be grounded on previous entries may, notwithstanding any variance between the same, be established against any entries made subsequent to such surveys; and that a reasonable time may be fixed for surveying, locating and suing out patents, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Rumsey, praying that he, his heirs, executors or assigns, may have and enjoy the sole and exclusive right and privilege of constructing, navigating and employing boats upon his new invented model, for and during the term of ten years, is reasonable; under a proviso, that the exclusive privilege may at any time be abolished by the legislature, on paying to him or them, the sum of 10,000*l.* current money, in gold or silver.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Finnie, late deputy quartermaster general, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as is by law given to a colonel serving three years in the continental army, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Henry Martin, jun. praying that a ferry may be established from his lands in the county of Fluvanna, across the north fork of James river to the opposite shore, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d and 4th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read

in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of David Jones, praying that his accounts as an orderly man to the hospital at York town, may be liquidated by the auditors, and a certificate granted him for the balance due thereon, to be paid in like manner as military certificates are, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to settle the petitioner's accounts and grant him certificates accordingly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Gilmer, praying that the expenses which he incurred in the cure of sundry wounds received by his son Samuel Gilmer, a soldier in the defeat of Col. Buford at the Hanging Rock, and also, for clothes furnished his said son, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid the sum of 15*l*. for the same.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Sylvanus Prince, administrator of George Prince, deceased, praying that a claim due to the said decedent's estate from the public for a horse impressed for the use of Major John Nelson's cavalry, may be settled by the auditors, and a certificate granted him, agreeable to the valuation of the said horse, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Jacob Valentine, late a captain in the Virginia line, praying relief in consideration of the loss of one of his eyes, which was occasioned by a disorder which he contracted by the severity of the service to the northward, during the late war, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 2d and 3d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;'" and that Messrs. Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, Richard Lee, Sherwin, Markham, Strother, Southall and Armistead, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Barrett, sheriff of the county of James City; praying that the ten per cent. damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court in June last, for the balance of taxes due for the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, may be remitted, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Lynch, praying that an act may pass for establishing a town at his ferry in the county of Campbell, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison, do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the latter resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Pendleton have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the Judges of the Superior Courts, and the Attorney General, while attending the debates of this House, be admitted to seats within the bar.

A petition of Nathan Rowland, was presented to the House, and read; praying relief in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle at Guilford courthouse, and which has rendered him unable to support himself by labor.

Also, a petition of John Vaughan; setting forth, that being a lieutenant in one of the State regiments, he was in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty, sent by order of Major General Gates with a detachment of fifteen men, and twenty-seven prisoners of war, from Hillsborough, in North Carolina, to Richmond, in Virginia; that not being supplied with public money, he was compelled to advance considerable sums for the support of the said detachment, during their said march; and also, during their march to Winchester, where he was ordered by Governor Jefferson, which was never reimbursed to him; and praying that his account of expenditures may be liquidated, and that he may receive the balance due to him.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Manchester, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive another inspection of tobacco in the said town, would be of great advantage to the community at large, and very considerable relief to those who deposit their tobacco there, who are often compelled to wait a considerable time from the inability of the present inspectors to discharge them; and praying that an act may pass for establishing a set of warehouses on the lands of Jacob Rubsamen, in the said town.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the day for holding the courts of the said county may be altered, which at present is very inconvenient, interfering with the court day of Prince George county, and subjecting them to many other inconveniences.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Nansemond, and Isle of Wight; setting forth, that they



have long labored under many inconveniences from the great extent of their counties; and praying that a part of each of the said counties may be united, and formed into a distinct county.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made a further progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, November 11, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Moses Hunter, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; Mr. John Breckenridge, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; and Mr. James Montgomery, one of the members for the county of Washington; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Moses Hunter, John Breckenridge and James Montgomery, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "giving James Rumsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats, for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Jefferson into two distinct counties; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Kemp's warehouse, in the county of Middlesex;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Walker have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Booker, until Tuesday next.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had farther examined what laws have lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly, passed at the last session, entitled "an act, to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" which will expire on the first day of December next, ought to be further continued and amended.

The said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Obadiah Clarke, was presented to the House and read; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he was engaged to do a considerable quantity of brick work for the public, for which he received a warrant; but as it was not drawn on any particular fund, he has never received any part of it; and praying that the same may be now discharged, with interest.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of a committee of sundry Baptist Associations, assembled at Dover meeting-house, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have still reason to complain of several acts now in force, which they conceive are oppressive and repugnant to the equal rights of religious liberty, particularly the marriage and vestry law; and praying that the same may be amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of Southampton and the adjacent counties, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the inspection of tobacco at South Quay, the warehouses of which were destroyed by the enemy in the year 1781, may be revived.



Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Royston's, and Fredericksburg inspections; praying that their salaries may be augmented, and that they may be allowed a commission for the collection of the tax on tobacco.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the people of this Commonwealth, according to their respectful abilities, ought to pay a moderate tax or contribution, annually, for the support of the christian religion, or of some christian church, denomination or communion of christians, or of some form of christian worship.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts ought to be authorised to ascertain the balance now due upon the claims of Daniel Clarke, and to issue specie warrants for one moiety of the said debt, receivable in any taxes for the next year, and like warrants for the other moiety of the said debt, receivable in any taxes for the year 1786.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ayes, 47.

Noes, 32.

On a motion made by Mr. Strother, and seconded by Mr. Matthews,

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Samuel Sherwin, Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, Carter Henry Harrison, Edward Carrington, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, George Wray, Thomas Smith, Andrew Donnelly, Batte Peterson, Isaac Coles, John Coleman, Garland Anderson, Patrick Henry, William Norvell, John Seabrook Wills, Philip Barbour, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, John Heath, William White, George Slaughter, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, William Armistead, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Littleton Eyre, Thomas Gaskins, John Thornton, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, Edward Bland, Thomas Walke, John Fauntleroy, Bailey Washington, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, Richard Lee, Joseph Prentis and Henry Tazewell.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, Zachariah Johnston, Robert Clarke, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, John Nicholas, John Ward, Samuel Hawes, Jacob Morton, French Strother, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, William Pickett, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Underwood, George Clendinnen, Ralph Humphreys, Nathaniel Wilkerson, Benjamin Pope, Richard Bland Lee, Anthony Street, John Breckenridge, James Madison, jun. Charles Porter, John Hays, Gawin Hamilton, John Hopkins, William Russell, James Montgomery, Nathaniel Nelson and Thomas Matthews.

The latter resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that Messrs. Patrick Henry, Corbin, Jones of King George, Coles, Norvell, Wray, Jones of Dinwiddie, Carter Henry Harrison, Tazewell and Prentis, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and the better security of county records," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Peterson have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Tuesday se'nnight.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, November 12, 1784.

A bill, "for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Kemp's warehouse, in the county of Middlesex;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for dividing the county of Jefferson into two distinct counties;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for giving James Rumsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats for a limited time;" was read the second-time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the last session of Assembly found it expedient and necessary to suspend the collection of taxes; and for preventing delays thereby of payments to the United States, appropriated the one and an half per cent. imposed at the same session on goods imported into this Commonwealth, after paying the delegates representing this State in Congress, to the purpose of making such payments to the United States; and as the suspension aforesaid will expire in January next, which will remove the occasion for the said appropriation;

*Resolved, therefore,* That the monies arising on the said impost of one and an half per cent. from and after the first day of January next, so far as the same were appropriated to the States' quota to the United States, ought to be appropriated to the payment of foreign, and such other creditors as the General Assembly shall, from time to time, direct.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Carrington, John Marshall and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and the better securing of county records;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the treasurer be directed to pay the money voted by the Assembly, at their last session, to Edmund Pendleton, George Wythe and Thomas Jefferson, Esquires, for the revision of the laws, out of the money which may be in his hands, appropriated to defray the contingent expenses of government, upon the order of the Executive for that purpose; and the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Henry do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from proceeding on the petition of sundry inspectors of tobacco; and the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act."

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "for imposing certain duties on certain enumerated articles to be in future imported into this Commonwealth, in aid of the public revenue;" and that Messrs. Hancock, Breckenridge, West, Wray and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That the committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Thomas Bentley, to them referred; and that the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for appropriating an additional impost duty."

Mr. Mathews presented, according to order, a bill "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Nathan Rowland, praying relief in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle of Guilford courthouse, whilst serving as a soldier in the militia ordered from this State, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Joel Foster, praying that a claim due to him from the public, for a horse, saddle and bridle, which was impressed from him for the use of the army, in the year 1781, and which were valued by two field officers to the sum of \$41. may be settled by the auditors, and a certificate granted him agreeably to the said valuation, is reasonable; and that the same be charged to the United States.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Benjamin Jones, deputy sheriff of the county of Greenville, to them referred, and agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Jones distrained the goods and chattels belonging to many people in the said county, in order thereby to raise the taxes due for the year 1783, but could not sell them; that he was very assiduous in endeavoring to make the collection, and that his default did not proceed from any speculation, or sinister motives.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Jones hath paid into the treasury the balance of the judgment obtained against William Mason, sheriff of the said county, except the interest and damages.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Benjamin Jones, deputy sheriff of the county of Greenville, praying that the interest and damages on the judgment obtained in the General Court, in June last, against the said William Mason, may be remitted, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the town of Manchester, praying that an act may pass, for establishing an inspection of tobacco on the land of Jacob Rubsamen, in the said town, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, praying that the court day of the said county may be altered, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of John Moffet, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was sheriff of the county of Fauquier, in the year 1782, and by the default of his deputies became deficient in the collection of the public taxes, for which deficiency judgment has been obtained against him by the solicitor, with interest and damages, and execution issued thereupon, which has involved him in great distress; that he is now employed in repairing the default of his deputies; has made considerable payments, sold the land on which he lives, and taken the estate of his deputies to answer the same purpose; and praying that further time may be granted him to pay in the balance of his collection, and that he may be exonerated from the interest and damages on the said judgment.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the progress made in the statement of public accounts, as directed by a resolution of the last session of Assembly; and that Messrs. Madison, Richard Bland Lee, Hunter, Curtis, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Corbin, Hawes and Barbour, be of the said committee.

A memorial of the United Clergy of the Presbyterian Church, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they feel much uneasiness at the continuance of their grievances, which they complained of in a memorial presented to the last session of Assembly, increased by the prospect of an addition to them, by certain exceptionable measures said to be proposed to the Legislature; that they disapprove of all acts for incorporating the clergy of any society independent of theirs, or any interference of the Legislature in the spiritual concerns of religion; and that a general assessment for its support ought, they think, to be extended to those who profess the public worship of the Deity, and are comprised within the Declaration of Rights; and praying the attention of the Legislature to their representations.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year, from the 30th day of the present month; and also of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Short, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, June 13, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Alexander White, one of the members for the county of Frederick; and Mr. Bennett Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Alexander White and Bennett Tompkins, be admitted to their seats on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House take into his custody,

[Here the clerk has omitted registering the names of the absent members.]

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Jefferson, into two distinct counties;" and the same was received and read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dividing the county of Jefferson, into two distinct counties."



*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Kemp's warehouse, in the county of Middlesex;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for reviving the inspection of tobacco at Kemp's warehouse, in the county of Middlesex."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee for Religion be discharged from further proceeding on the memorial of the committee of the Baptist associations; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "authorising the Governor, with advice of Council, to suspend, when necessary, the surveying of certain lands in the western country;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Norvell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for discouraging extensive credit, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book debts,'" and that Messrs. Roane, Thomas Smith, Tazewell, Corbin, and John Marshall, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Wills, William Thornton, and Breckenridge, be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "giving James Ramsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats, for a limited time;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed, and read the third time.

A petition of Richard Hay, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the siege of York town, he entered into a company of volunteer light-horse men, and being taken prisoner by the British, lost his horse, saddle, and other accoutrements; and praying to be paid the value of the same.

Also, a petition of Archer Allen; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he performed sundry services for the army by order of the county lieutenant of Cumberland, for which he has not received any compensation; and praying that some allowance may be made him.

Also, a petition of Henry Martin; setting forth, that he was employed for a considerable time in the year 1781, in driving cattle to the army, for which he has received no compensation; and praying that some allowances may be made him for his services.

Also, a petition of Jacob Alford; setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the continental army, and at the battle of Brandywine received a wound in his foot, which has rendered him incapable of labor; that he has been allowed a pension which is by no means adequate to his support; and praying that the same may be enlarged.

Also, a petition of George Hite, late lieutenant in the 1st regiment of dragoons; setting forth, that in a skirmish with a party of British light-horse in the State of South Carolina, he received a wound in his right arm, which has deprived him of the use of it; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the Marquis Fayette, and one other from the honorable James Monroe:

*Ordered*, That the letter from the Marquis Fayette, with its enclosures, be referred to the committee of Commerce.

*Ordered*, That the letter from the honorable James Monroe, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Alexandria, whose names are threunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that Mr. John Alexander, late of the county of Stafford, deceased, being seized of a tract of land adjoining the town of Alexandria, in the year 1774, laid out a part thereof into lots, and granted them in fee to the purchaser; that his executors also, after his death, in pursuance of his will, laid out an additional number of lots, and granted them in fee; that since the disposal of the said lots, the eldest son of the said John Alexander hath departed this life, leaving an infant son, whose guardians having discovered that the said land was entailed, alleged that the said John had no right to dispose of it; and are about to dispossess the petitioners, which has been very disadvantageous to the town, by preventing the improvement thereof; and praying that an act may pass for confirming the titles of the said lots, to the purchaser thereof.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee.

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

A petition of William Orange, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is a native of Great Britain, and having resided many years in Virginia, acquired a very considerable property in lots and houses in the borough of Norfolk; that being aged, and desirous of spending the remainder of his life in his native country, in the year 1771, he removed himself and family to England; that during the war, his whole estate has been confiscated as being the property of a British subject, and sold for the use of the Commonwealth; and praying that the same may be restored to him, which, he conceived his inoffensive conduct during the war, will undoubtedly entitle him to.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

*Ordered*, then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, November 15, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Mr. Bailey Washington, one of the members for the county of Stafford; and Mr. Thomas Towles, one of the members for the county of Spotsylvania, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last.

*Ordered*, That the said Richard Lee, Bailey Washington and Thomas Towles, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Mr. William Anderson, one of the members for the county of Louisa; and Mr. William Watkins, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms.

*Ordered*, That the said John Taylor, William Anderson and William Watkins, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "giving James Rumsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats, for a limited time;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, giving James Rumsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats, for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "authorising the Governor, with the advice of the Council, to suspend, when necessary, the surveying of certain lands in the western country;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Nausemond and Southampton, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Nausemond and Southampton, praying that the inspection of tobacco at South Quay, may be revived and established, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning entries and surveys;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to inquire into the progress made by the solicitor with the continental commissioner, in the settlement of the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States; also, of the progress the said solicitor has made in collecting the books and accounts of the several commercial agents of this State, and statement of the balance due thereon; and make report, together with their opinion thereupon, to this House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Carrington, Jones of King George, Madison, Southall and Washington.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of an attorney general, for the district of Kentucky, in the room of Walker Daniel, Esq. deceased.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bibb have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Saturday se'nnight.

A petition of James and Micajah Callaway, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that very early in the war, they enlisted as soldiers in the corps designated for the defence of the western country, and being soon after made prisoners by the Indians, they were long detained in captivity: during which, they underwent many severities; and praying compensation for their services.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. King be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for the appointment of navy officers, and regulating their fees.'"

The House being informed of the arrival of Gen. Washington, in this city;

*Resolved, nemine contra dicente*, That as a mark of their reverence for his character, and affection of his person, a committee of five members be appointed to wait upon him, with the respectful regards of this House, to express to him the satisfaction they feel in the opportunity afforded, by his presence, of offering this tribute to his merits; and to assure him, that, as they not only retain the most lasting impressions of the transcendent services rendered in his late public character, but have, since his return to private life, experienced proofs, that no change of situation can turn his thoughts from the welfare of his country, so his happiness can never cease to be an object of their most devout wishes and fervent supplications.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Jones of King George, Madison, Carter Henry Harrison, and Carrington.

A petition of James Gordon, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in consequence of many unavoidable delays proceeding from the illness of himself and his deputies, he was prevented from completing the collection of the public taxes for the year 1783, in the county of Lancaster, of which he was sheriff; and that a judgment has been obtained against him in the General Court, for the balance, with interest and damages; and praying that the same may be remitted.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Berkeley, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition of sundry others, of the said inhabitants; praying for a division of the said county.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the removal of two of the members of the Privy Council or Council of State, pursuant to the Constitution or form of government.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and "for punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 16, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "authorising the Governor, with the advice of the Council, to suspend, when necessary, the surveying of certain lands in the western country;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, authorising the Governor, with the advice of the Council, to suspend, when necessary, the surveying of certain lands in the western country."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mathews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee appointed to wait upon General Washington, with the resolution of this House, of yesterday, that the committee had, according to order, waited upon the General, and presented him with the said resolution, to which he was pleased to return the following answer:

GENTLEMEN,—My sensibility is deeply affected by this distinguished mark of the affectionate regard of your honorable House. I lament, upon this occasion, the want of those powers, which would enable me to do justice to my feelings; and shall rely upon your indulgent report, to supply the defect; at the same time, I pray you to present for me, the strongest assurances of unalterable affection and gratitude for this last pleasing, and flattering attention of my country.

The House being informed that Mr. William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Dix be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further con-



tinuing the act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act concerning pensioners;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed to examine into the fees received, or which may probably be received by the register of the Land Office; that the committee be empowered to inspect the books of the said office, and to call for any information proper to explain the subject; and that they specially report their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, William Anderson, Tazewell, Cabell and Coles.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A bill, "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henrico, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that many evils have arisen from the partial emancipation of slaves, since the act, "authorising the manumission of them," was passed; and praying that the same may be repealed.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hanover, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Blandford, Davis's and Boyd's warehouses in the county of Prince George; setting forth, that by an act passed in the May session, 1782, a tax of six shillings was to be paid by the shipper, on every hoghead of tobacco exported, which, in consequence of the slow promulgation of the laws, they continued to receive a considerable time after the same was reduced to four shillings, and paid the same into the treasury; that those who shipped the tobacco have since demanded the overplus of the petitioners; and praying that the same may be refunded to them by the treasurer.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the memorial of the Presbytery of Hanover, which was laid before the last Assembly, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of George Flowerdew Norton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was, at the commencement of the war, an inhabitant of Great Britain, and a member of the house of Nortons and Sons, of London, whose dealings and transactions with the citizens of this State, were very extensive; that since his return to his native country, he has been compelled to pay many debts due from the said company, but has been unable to collect any due to them, in consequence of the laws prohibiting the recovery of British debts, by which he has been reduced to the greatest extremes; and praying that such relief may be extended to him, as his situation requires.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Caroline, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they consider the law imposing taxes upon process in civil suits, as highly unjust and oppressive, as it does not fall equally upon the suitors, but on those only who are compelled to seek redress for their grievances in the courts of justice; and the aggressor being exempt in a great measure from the payment of them; that they consider a tax upon suitors towards defraying the expense of the administration of justice, highly reasonable; but that it should be paid by him who is ultimately found to be in the wrong, and taxed in the bill of costs; and praying that the law imposing the said taxes may be amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Matthews and Henry do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The order of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "giving John Hoomes the exclusive right of conveying persons in a stage coach, to and from certain places, for a limited time," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 17, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; and Mr. William Ronald, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Joseph Jones and William Ronald be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Marshall, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Marshall be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

A bill, "for farther continuing the act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill, "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

Mr. Hancock presented, according to order, a bill "for further continuing and amending the act, entitled 'an act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Richard Ray, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, for a horse, saddle, bridle and pistols, which were taken from him by the enemy, when made prisoner by them in the year 1781, whilst serving as a light-horse man, under the command of Captain James Upshaw, from the county of Essex, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 25*l*. the appraised value of the said horse, and the further sum of 5*l*. for his saddle, bridle and pistols.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Obadiah Clarke, praying that he may receive payment of a warrant drawn in favor of the petitioner, in the year 1781, for a considerable quantity of brick work done for the public, in the execution of which work, he was obliged to make advances of ready money, for which he has received no satisfaction, is reasonable; and that the sum of 99*l*. 18*s*. being the amount of the said warrant, ought to be paid to the petitioner out of the contingent fund, together with an interest of five per cent. thereon, from the date of the said warrant, till the same shall be paid.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Ryan, praying relief in consideration of several wounds which he received whilst serving as a soldier in the continental service, and which have rendered him unable to labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Jacob Alford, praying that a further allowance may be made him, by the public, in consequence of a wound which he received whilst serving as a soldier in the Virginia line, and which has rendered him unable to labor, is reasonable; and that in lieu of a former annual allowance made the petitioner, he ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Brent be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to proceed this day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, to serve for one year from the 30th day of the present month; and of an attorney general for the Kentucky district, in the room of Walker Daniel, Esq. deceased; also, to remove two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, pursuant to the constitution of government. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, inclosing the resignation of Harry Innes, Esq. chief judge of the western district, which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, to serve for one year from the 30th day of the present month; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Jones of King George, William Watkins and Richard Lee, were nominated a committee, to



meet a committee of the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom a majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Patrick Henry, Esq.

The House then proceeded in the same manner, to remove the members of the Privy Council or Council of State, agreeably to the constitution of government; and the members having prepared tickets, with the names of the members to be removed, and deposited them in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Jones of King George, William Watkins and Richard Lee, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes against William Christian and Meriwether Smith, Esquires.

The House then proceeded in the same manner, to the appointment of an attorney general for the Kentucky district, in the room of Walker Daniel, Esq. deceased, and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. John Marshall, Matthews, and Alexander White, were nominated a committee, to meet a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House, on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Harry Innes, Esq.

The House, according to the order the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the Presbytery of Hanover, and of the Baptist association, as prays that the laws regulating the celebration of marriage, and relating to the construction of the vestries, may be altered, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That acts ought to pass for the incorporation of all societies of the christian religion, which may apply for the same.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The latter resolution being twice read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ayes, 62.

Noes, 23.

On a motion made, by Mr. Alexander White, and seconded by Mr. Carter Henry Harrison;

*Ordered,* That the names of the ayes and noes, on the question to agree to the latter resolution, be entered on the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, jun. Samuel Sherwin, Nicholas Cabell, William Meridith, Robert Clarke, Archibald Stuart, George Hancock, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Ward, Samuel Hawes, Jacob Morton, Thomas Collier, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, George Wray, Spencer Roane, Thomas West, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Smith, Andrew Donnelly, Isaac Coles, John Coleman, Ralph Humphreys, Garland Anderson, Patrick Henry, John Seasbrook Wills, Philip Barbour, Joseph Jones of King George, Benjamin Temple, John Heath, Richard Bland Lee, William Anderson, George Slaughter, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, William Armistead, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Littleton Eyre, Bennett Tompkins, Thomas Gaskins, John Thornton, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, John Clarke, Edmund Rufin, Edward Bland Lee, John Faunteroy, Albrington Jones, Bailey Washington, William Brent, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, Nathaniel Nelson and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Moses Hunter, John Taylor of Caroline, French Strother, William Pickett, Alexander White, George Cleandinnen, Nathaniel Wilkerson, Robert Marshall, Benjamin Pope, Anthony Street, John Breckenridge, James Madison, John Hays, Gavin Hamilton, John Hopkins, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomas Towles, William Russell and James Montgomery.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; that Messrs. Matthews, Jones of King George, Corbin, Briggs, Brent, Carter Henry Harrison, Henry and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to incorporate the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and that Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Henry, Thomas Smith, William Anderson, and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

The order of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Short, Esq. who hath resigned, being read;



*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 18, 1784.

A bill, "imposing duties on certain articles in aid of the public revenue;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A bill, "for further continuing the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, and turpentine,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

The House being informed of the arrival, this morning, of the Marquis de la Fayette, in this city;

*Resolved, nemine contra dicente*, That a committee of five members be appointed to present to him the affectionate respects of this House, to signify to him their sensibility to the pleasing proof given by this visit to the United States, and to this State in particular; that the benevolent and honorable sentiments which originally prompted him to embark in the hazardous fortunes of America, still render the prosperity of its affairs an object of his attention and regard; and to assure him that they cannot review the scenes of blood and danger, through which we have arrived at the blessings of peace, without being touched in the most lively manner with the recollection, not only of the invaluable services for which the United States at large, are so much indebted to him, but of that conspicuous display of cool intrepidity and wise conduct during his command in the campaign of 1781, which, by having so essentially served this State, in particular, have given him so just a title to its particular acknowledgments: that, impressed as they thus are, with the distinguished lustre of his character, they cannot form a wish more suitable than that the lesson it affords may inspire all those whose noble minds may emulate his glory, to pursue it by means equally auspicious to the interests of humanity.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Henry, Madison, Jones of King George, Matthews and Brent.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, to serve from the 28th day of May next, in the room of William Christian and Meriwether Smith, Esquires, who stand removed after that date, by the joint ballot of yesterday, agreeably to the constitution of government.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will to-morrow proceed, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and also of a chief justice of the western district, in the room of Harry Innes, Esq. elected attorney general of the said district.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Alexander McKay, and Jane, his wife, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, amended, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of Alexander McKay, and Jane, his wife, praying that a land warrant granted to them in right of the said Jane, who claims under Alexander McKenzie, for military services which he performed in the war of 1758, against the Indians, may be located in some part of the lands granted to the Virginia officers of the State and continental lines, is reasonable; *Provided*, that such location shall not be made until the demands of the said officers and soldiers shall be satisfied.

The said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

A petition of Thomas Wyatt was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he received a wound in his hip, at the battle at Guilford courthouse, which has disabled him; and praying to be continued on the list of pensioners.

Also, a petition of Thomas Hightower; setting forth, that in consequence of several dangerous wounds received in a skirmish with the British troops, he was put on the list of pensioners, but his allowance commenced only from the time of his petitioning; and praying that the same may begin from the time he was wounded.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of William Bowyer, sheriff of Augusta county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the scarcity of cash and severity of the late winter, have rendered the people of the said county incapable to pay their taxes; and that the treasurer has refused the receipt of certain commutables, which was tendered within two days after the time appointed; so that the petitioner is reduced to a very critical situation; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Thomas, sheriff of Rockingham county, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Charles Cameron, late a colonel in the continental army; praying to be allowed a bounty in lands in consideration of military services rendered during the late war.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince George, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said county; praying the removal of their courthouse.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to the petitions of sundry other inhabitants of the said county, and of the county of Berkeley, praying a division of the said counties.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House and read, in opposition to the scheme of a general assessment for the support of religion.

*Ordered*, That the said petition do lie on the table.

A petition of John Todd and John B. Smith, was presented to the House, and read; explaining so much of the memorial of the Presbytery of Hanover as respects the incorporation of religious societies; and praying that the distinction therein stated may be preserved.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing the petition of Robert White; which was read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the treasurer do lay his accounts before the House.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments reported from the committee of the whole House, to the bill "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and for the better security of county records," which lay on the table; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act 'prescribing the method of proving book debts;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, November 19, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Isaac Vanmiter, one of the members for the county of Hampshire, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Isaac Vanmiter be admitted to his seat without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for regulating the appointment of clerks to the county and other inferior courts, and for the better security of county records;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 40.

Noes, 41.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William White have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Tuesday se'nnight.

A bill, "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act prescribing the method of proving book debts;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Tuesday next.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Prince George and Sussex; praying that a warehouse for the reception of tobacco, which formerly stood at Hoods, may be re-established, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to bring in a bill "to amend the act, and reduce into one act, 'the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco;'" do receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the said resolution.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, allowing a bounty in lands to William Franic and Augustine Slaughter; allowing James Gilmer a sum of money; for liquidating the claim of David Jones; granting a

military certificate to James Shurlock; and for remitting the interest and damages upon a judgment against William Mason. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for appointing trustees for the town of York,” with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill “giving James Rumsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats for a limited time,” with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments to the said bills; and the same being read, were agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Henry reported, from the committee appointed to notify the Marquis de la Fayette, the resolution of this House of yesterday; that the committee had, according to order, waited upon the Marquis, and presented the same; and that he was pleased to return the following answer:

“GENTLEMEN,—With the most respectful thanks to your Honorable House, permit me to acknowledge, not only the flattering favor they now are pleased to confer, but also the constant partiality and unbounded confidence of this State, which, in trying times, I have so happily experienced. Through the continent, gentlemen, it is most pleasing for me to join with my friends in mutual congratulations; and need not add what my sentiments must be in Virginia, where, step by step, have I so keenly felt for her distress,—so eagerly enjoyed her recovery. Our armed force was obliged to retreat; but your patriotic hearts stood unshaken;—And while, either at that period, or in our better hours, my obligations to you are numberless, I am happy in this opportunity to observe, that the excellent services of your militia were continued with unparalleled steadiness. Impressed with the necessity of Federal Union, I was the more pleased in the command of an army so peculiarly Federal, as Virginia herself freely bled in defence of her sister States.

“In my wishes to this Commonwealth, gentlemen, I will persevere with the same zeal that once, and forever, has devoted me to her: May her fertile soil rapidly increase her wealth: May all the waters which so luxuriantly flow within her limits, be happy channels of the most extensive trade; and may she, in her wisdom, and the enjoyment of prosperity, continue to give the world unquestionable proofs of her philanthropy, and her regard to the liberties of all mankind.

LA FAYETTE.”

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bailey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to proceed this day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, to serve from the 28th day of May next, in the room of William Christian and Meriwether Smith, Esquires, who stand removed after that date, by the joint ballot of both Houses, agreeably to the Constitution of government. And then he withdrew.

The House then, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Short, Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Madison, Matthews and Heath, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Joseph Jones of King George.

The House then, in the same manner, proceeded to the choice of two members of the Privy Council or Council of State, to serve from the 28th day of May, in the room of William Christian and Meriwether Smith, Esquires, who stand removed after that date by the joint ballot of both Houses, agreeably to the Constitution of government; and the members having prepared tickets, with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Richard Lee, William Watkins, Wells and Ronald, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, and jointly with them examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Spencer Roane, and Miles Selden, jun. Esquires.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the free navigation of the river Mississippi, and to avert the danger of hostilities with the Indians; for putting Jacob Alford, John Ryan, Nathaniel Rowland and Martin Murphey, on the list of pensioners; granting a bounty in lands to George Rowland; and allowing sums of money to Richard Kay and Joel Foster. And then he withdrew.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Campbell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the court of the said county have proceeded in opposition to an act of Assembly and the general sense of the people, to direct the public buildings of the said county, at a place not central and convenient, and remote from the present place of holding courts, which has been duly ascertained and fixed upon as the centre of the county; and praying that the said public buildings may be established at the last mentioned place.



*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer immediately pay to John Ryan in money, who was put on the list of pensioners by a resolution of the present Assembly, one year's allowance, in advance.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Taylor of Caroline, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The order of the day for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and of a chief judge of the western district; also, on the bills "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and "for punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, November 20, 1784.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Henrico and Hanover, praying that the act, "authorising the manumission of slaves may be amended;" and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Benjamin Spiller, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner entered into the service in the month of September 1775, and continued therein till January 1776, when he was promoted to a lieutenancy in the 7th Virginia regiment; and in the month of January following, got the command of a company, which command he held till he left the army, which happened in the month of September 1778.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Benjamin Spiller, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as is given by law to a captain in the continental service, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of William Brandon, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was employed a considerable time as an artificer in the public service, and was, by excessive labor in extreme hot weather, deprived of the use of one side; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of William Mead; setting forth, that being the creditor of a certain Michael Montgomery, who had a certificate for ninety days hire of a wagon, he received an assignment of the same, but did not present it to the county court before the law for liquidating those claims had expired; and praying that the auditors may be directed to issue their warrant for the amount thereof.

A petition of John Chiles; setting forth, that having mislaid a certificate for provisions furnished the commissioners of Bedford, he was prevented from presenting the same before the law for liquidating those claims had expired; and praying that he may receive a warrant for the amount thereof.

Also, a petition of Simon Sommers; setting forth, that he was engaged a considerable time in the service of his country, as an adjutant, during which he contracted a violent dysentery, with which he is now afflicted; and praying that he may receive half pay for life, and a bounty in lands.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Carrington and Allen have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'night.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Wednesday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A petition of William Payne, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that early in the year 1776, he entered into the service of his country as a lieutenant of marines, and was soon after appointed a captain in the 1st State regiment, which commission he held until the exposed situation of his family in Princess Anne, compelled

him to resign; that he has since served as a volunteer, and received a dangerous wound, which confined him many months; and praying that he may receive a bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established at the town of Harrisonburg, in the said county.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for allowing a sum of money to Obadiah Clarke, and for paying a sum of money to Edmund Pendleton, George Wythe, and Thomas Jefferson, Esquires, out of the contingent fund, with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House then proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Lunenburg, Mecklenburg and Amelia, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive the stability of our government, and the preservation of peace and happiness among the individuals of it, depend in a great measure on the influence of religion, without which, no government, however wisely formed, can long exist; that they consider its rapid declension within a few years, as proceeding from the inattention of the Legislature, who have an undoubted right to compel every individual who partakes of those blessings which are originally derived from it, to contribute to the support of it; and praying that an act may pass for a general assessment for that purpose, and for securing to the Protestant Episcopal Church the property vested in it.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Halifax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill for a general assessment.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of three members be appointed to notify to Patrick Henry, Esq. his appointment to be Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year from the 13th day of the present month.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Jones of King George, Madison and Ronald.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and "for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year, and of a chief justice of the western district," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, November 22, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Edmunds, one of the members for the county of Sussex; and Mr. John Glenn, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Edmunds and John Glenn, be admitted to their seats on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Claiborne of Brunswick, have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from John Hopkins, continental commissioner of loans, enclosing one from Robert Morris, Esq. financier general; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing the solicitor general's return of taxes for the year 1783, which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of Peter Francisco, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he served as a volunteer in the continental army, during the late war, upwards of three years, and has never received any pay or other compensation; and praying to be allowed the same emoluments as others in his situation have been granted.

Also, a petition of Alexander Willey; praying to be allowed a compensation for three years services as a keeper of the great seal of the Commonwealth, in affixing the same to patents, grants and public commissions.

Also, a petition of Abel Westfall; setting forth, that in the year 1775, he made sundry advances for clothing to the company under his command, belonging to the 8th Virginia regiment: his account for which he cannot get liquidated; and praying that the auditors may be empowered to audit and settle the claim.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Jones of King George, reported, from the committee appointed to notify to Patrick Henry, Esq. his appointment to be Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year from the 30th day of this month, that the committee had, according to order, waited on that gentleman, and notified him of the said appointment, to which he was pleased to return the following answer:

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg the favor of you to make my acknowledgments to the General Assembly; and to assure them, that I shall ever retain a just sense of the honor now conferred upon me. It shall be my constant endeavor to discharge the duty of the high office to which I am called, so as to promote the happiness of the Commonwealth. And I have to hope, that my intentions may be favorably interpreted, and my deficiencies supplied by the wisdom of the General Assembly."

A petition of a committee of the Cincinnati Society, was presented to the House, and read; praying for an act of incorporation from the Legislature.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from the great scarcity of money in the county, the severity of the late seasons, the expense they have been at in clearing a wagon road to their county, and other causes, they are unable to pay their public taxes; and praying that they may be exonerated from the payment of taxes due for the year 1782, and 1783.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be recommitted to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" and "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and "to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year;" also, "of a chief justice of the western district," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 23, 1784.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to establish a town on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for altering the court day of the county of Chesterfield;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Prince George, praying that the place for holding courts in the said county, may be fixed at or near the centre thereof, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Prince George, praying that the place for holding courts in the said county, may be fixed at the town of Blandford, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the Marquis La Fayette, and one other from Monsieur Oster; also, a petition of the children of Stephen Yancey; which were read.

*Ordered*, That the said letters do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nelson have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Tuesday next.



A petition of James Ash, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he enlisted as a soldier in the service of this State, and was entitled to a bounty of 1,000 lbs. of tobacco, which he has never received; and praying that the same may be paid to him.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors,'" to receive a clause or clauses directing all the taxes therein mentioned upon law proceedings, to be taxed in the bill of costs.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" "giving John Hoomes the exclusive right of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and "to explain and amend the act, 'for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book debts,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 24, 1784.

Mr. Taylor of Caroline, reported, from the committee appointed to examine into the former or future emoluments of the Register of the Land Office, that the committee had received all the information they could obtain on the subject, and had agreed to a report and resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by House, as followeth:

They cannot form any probable estimate of his emoluments, previous to the 1st day of January last, because the register hath kept no regular account previous to that time of his receipts; but when the number of land warrants (almost the whole of which issued before that day) is adverted to, these have been very considerable. The number of land warrants issued is thirty thousand six hundred, which at five shillings each, amount to the sum of seven thousand six hundred and fifty pounds: though it must be remembered, that a proportion of this number were paid for in paper money when considerably depreciated; and therefore, that this calculation is probably somewhat too high. Of the register's other profits to the 1st of January last, the committee can form no probable conjecture.

As to the actual amount of the fees received during the present year, and the probable future amount of fees, the committee have formed the following estimate:

Amount of land claimed by settlement and by surveys, under the Loyal and Greenbrier Companies, 1,890,000, patented in 300 acre patents, fees	-	-	-	£3,346	17	6
Amount of land claimed by the military, 4,750,000, in surveys of 500 acres each, fees	-	-	-	5,640	11	3
Amount of land claimed under treasury warrants, 38,360,000, surveyed in 1000 acre tracts, fees	-	-	-	34,763	2	6
Total probable amount of future fees,	-	-	-	£43,750	11	3

#### ESTIMATE OF PROFITS FOR THE YEAR 1784.

Fees received in Richmond from the 1st day of January last, to the 20th of November, 1,100*l.* 19*s.*

And continuing the like proportion, the fees per annum, in Richmond, amount to	-	£1,238	11	4	1-2
Fees received in Kentucky by the deputy register for January last, were 175 <i>l.</i> , and for April, 165 <i>l.</i> ; the medium of which is 173 <i>l.</i> per month, and amounts, per annum, to	-	2,040	0	0	

Total amount of profits for the year 1784,	-	-	-	£3,278	11	4	1-2
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Which profits arise from the patents only, except as to a few warrants.

To this estimate the committee beg leave to subjoin the following explanatory observations:

*First*,—That in their calculation of the fees arising from the military claims to land, they have confined themselves to the actual amount of land as near as they could ascertain it; for which warrants have already been issued; although they have good reason to believe that a great number of the military claims are not yet brought in, which will probably reduce the extension of the line limited for that business, and a considerable augmentation of the register's emoluments, which is excluded from the above calculation.

*Secondly*,—That their calculation of fees arising from the claims by settlement, and by surveys, under the Loyal and Greenbrier Companies, was confined to the returns laid before them, and an actual count of the persons contained in those returns, and must also be lower than what will actually be received, because they had no account of the allowances made by the county courts on this score, which must have been very considerable.

*Thirdly*,—That they made their calculation on the treasury warrants, under the supposition, that the whole land warranted would be located, and produce profits; though it was objected that many of those warrants had been taken out on speculation, sent to Europe, and would not probably return—an objection, the propriety of which can only be ascertained by the event. But the committee were of opinion, that supposing this objection to have some weight, any excess in their calculation was very sufficiently balanced by several great articles of profit not contained in their estimate at all. These are,

Fees arising from many entries and surveys on the eastern and western waters, which were made before the year 1776; and being arrested by the King of Great Britain's instructions to his Governors in 1763, have remained until the revolution unfinished, for many of which grants are yet to be issued, and which will probably produce a considerable sum.

Fees arising from exchanging warrants, which, at 3s. 9d. for each exchange, will bring in a considerable sum, as the counties, from time to time, are divided.

Fees for entering caveats,	-	-	-	-	2s. 6d. each.
Fees for copying grants,	-	-	-	-	3s. 9d. "
Fees for any search, or reading any papers,	-	-	-	-	1s. 3d. "
Fees for recording lists of certificates proved in any county court, or allowed by the commissioners of any district, and for keeping a regular account of warrants examined and cancelled to be paid by the public; for each certificate or warrant contained in such lists,					4s. 1-2d.

It is to be observed, that in the calculation of future profits, the fees already received on patents are included; but the committee suppose that this deduction would be also nearly balanced, as no enhancement of the sum on account of pre-emption claims to land, hath been charged; especially when it is remembered, that these claims are numerous, and that many of them are for small quantities of land.

It is further balanced, by recollecting, that the public defrays the expenses of procuring an office for the register, and furnishing record books. For all which reasons, the committee think that the estimate of further emoluments, is rather too low, than too high.

But the committee suppose that the best information is furnished by the amount of profits for the present year: in which they had the most certain data to proceed on; and by comparing which, with the profits of the last, the rapid increase of the register's emoluments are clearly to be seen. In Kentucky, for instance, the register informed the committee he only received between three and four hundred pounds the last year, and this year it will exceed two thousand pounds. To make the calculation, the deputy register's returns for April are only estimated at one hundred and sixty-five pounds, although the surveys for above 100,000 acres of land were returned for that month; for which the fees are left blank, being supposed to be credited, and are not taken into the account; so that this estimate is also probably under the mark.

The committee find, on examination, that 5,934 patents have been recorded between the 14th day of July 1780, and the 18th day of October 1784; and beg leave to observe, that the recording of patents and surveys, constitutes the principal part of the business in the register's office.

Upon the whole matter, the committee have come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the duties of the said office, bear no proportion to the emoluments; that the fees ought to be converted into a public fund; and that the register ought to be allowed a fixed salary, commensurate to his services.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Taylor of Caroline, Anderson, Tazewell, Corbin, Cabell and Cowles, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to establish a town on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill "for altering the court day of the county of Chesterfield;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

The House being informed that Mr. John Langhorne, one of the members for the county of Warwick; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over.

*Ordered*, That the said John Langhorne be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.



Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Greenbrier, praying that they may be exonerated from paying the public taxes for the years 1783 and 1784, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to continue an act, entitled 'an act to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act for giving further time' to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" and that Messrs. Breckenridge, Marshall, Clendinnen and Zachariah Johnston, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "authorising the Governor, with the advice of the Council, to suspend, when necessary, the surveying of certain lands in the western country;" also, to the resolutions directing the treasurer to pay a sum of money to John Ryan; for putting David Scott on the list of pensioners; for remitting the damages upon a judgment obtained on behalf of the Commonwealth against William Barrett; and directing the auditors to settle the claim of the administrator of George Prince, deceased. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the treasurer, enclosing an account of the funds appropriated for the redemption of the certificates granted to the officers and soldiers for their arrears of pay and depreciation; which was read and ordered to be referred to the committee appointed to prepare a statement of the public accounts.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for reviving and establishing the inspection of tobacco at certain places;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing new ferries;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, containing his resignation of the office of Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth from and after the 29th day of the present month; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, *nemine contra dicente*, That a committee of five members be appointed to wait upon the Governor, and present him with the thanks of this House, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, during the three past years of his administration, as Governor of the Commonwealth; and to assure him that this House retain a perfect sense of his ability and uprightness of his conduct as Chief Magistrate, and wish him all the domestic happiness upon his approaching return to private life.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Corbin, Matthews, William Watkins, William Thornton and Prentis.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to revive the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service; and that Messrs. Thomas Smith, Strother and Heath, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. King have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Wednesday next; and Mr. Wilson Cary Nicholas, until Monday se'nnight.

Mr. Markham reported, from the committee appointed pursuant to an act of the General Assembly, passed at their last session, entitled "an act to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" that they had met at sundry times and places agreeably to their advertisements in the public papers for that purpose, and agreed to a statement and report thereupon, which he presented in his place.

*Ordered*, That the said statement and report be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to explain and amend the act, 'for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, 'prescribing the method of proving book debts;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and



to prevent them from removing the records out of the same;" and that Messrs. Wills, Heath and Walke, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the pension allowed to David Scott, late a captain in the 13th Virginia regiment, in consideration of a wound received by him, ought to commence from the 3d day of November 1783.

And the said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for regulating the land tax;" and that Messrs. Stuart, Breckenridge, Prentis, Hancock and Briggs, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend an act, for establishing the town of Kempsville, in the county of Princess Anne;" and that Messrs. Walke and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Savary De Valcoulon, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that as agent for Messrs. Coulougnac and Company, merchants in France, he has received a warrant on the treasurer for the balance of the liquidated claim of the said Coulougnac and Company against this State, but has not yet been able to procure payment of the same; and praying that he may receive immediate payment of it, and also, of his expenses and damages for the detention.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of David Arell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he entered into the service of his country as an officer, in the year 1775, and continued therein until the year 1778, when his ill state of health compelled him to retire; and praying to be allowed a bounty in lands.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Walter Hopkins, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1777, he was employed by the Executive to go to Charlestown and lay out a sum of public money in the purchase of goods for the army, and was to be allowed a commission for his services, whether he was successful or not: that he accordingly repaired to Charlestown, but found the importation of goods from that State embargoed, and returned without any, the Executive being satisfied with the reason for the same, and he has never received any commission or other reward for his trouble and expense; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Vobe; praying to be paid out of some appropriated fund for a liquidated claim against the public.

Also, a petition of Willam Booth; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Charles Porter; setting forth, that he is possessed of certain certificates for impressed property, which, from various causes, he has been prevented from getting adjusted agreeably to law; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" "imposing duties on certain articles in aid of the public revenue;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 25, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to establish a town on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to establish a town on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for altering the court day of the county of Chesterfield;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for altering the court day of the county of Chesterfield;"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for establishing new ferries;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for reviving and establishing the inspection of tobacco, at certain places;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to lay before the General Assembly, the journals and proceedings of the Executive.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Marshall reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said amendments do lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for dividing the county of Jefferson, into two distinct counties," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Taylor presented, according to order, a bill "appropriating the fees of the Land Office, in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a letter from Oliver Pollock, and sundry other papers respecting his demands against the State; also, an extract of a letter from the honorable Mr. Hardy; which were read, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of William Booth; and that the same be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the children of Stephen Yancey, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the children of the said Stephen Yancey, who was convicted of murder at the last session of the General Court, praying that his estate may be vested in them, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Stuart presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, for equalizing the land tax;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Wyatt, praying that he may be continued on the list of pensioners, in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle at Guilford courthouse, whilst serving as a soldier in the militia ordered from this State, and which has rendered him unable to labor, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Hightower, setting forth, that in consequence of several wounds, which he received in a skirmish with the British troops, he was put on the list of pensioners, but his pension only commenced from the date of the resolution which allowed it to him; and praying that the same may take place from the time he was wounded, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Meade, praying that a claim due to him from the public, as assignee of Michael Montgomery, for 90 days wagon hire, may be settled by the auditors, and a certificate granted him for the same, is reasonable; to be charged to the continent, in account with this Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Chiles, praying that a claim due to him from the public, for sundry provisions furnished the commissioner of the provision law for the county of Bedford, in the year 1781, may be settled by the auditors, and a certificate granted him for such a sum as shall appear to be due; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of Simon Sommers, as prays that a bounty in lands may be allowed to him, in consideration of three years services as an adjutant in the continental service, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the peti-

tioner may be allowed half pay for life, in consideration of his being afflicted with a violent disorder, which he contracted whilst in service, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of George Hite, late a lieutenant in the 1st regiment of light dragoons, praying relief in consideration of a wound, which he received in his right arm, in a skirmish with the enemy's horse, in the year 1781, and which has rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Alexander Wiley, late door-keeper to the Council, praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, for two years extra services by him performed in affixing the seal of the Commonwealth to the patents and commissions, which were issued within that period, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 7th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of William Cobb, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1780, he was appointed an apothecary's mate in the continental hospital for the southern department, and continued in that service until September 1781; and praying that his accounts may be liquidated, and that the auditors may be directed to issue a warrant for the balance which shall appear to be due to him.

Also, a memorial of sundry officers of the Virginia line on continental establishment; setting forth, that they have not yet received the donation of six months pay voted the officers of that line, in the year 1777, being at that time either prisoners with the enemy, or on distant commands; and praying that they may now receive it.

*Ordered,* That the said petition and memorial be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of the late officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments, was presented to the House, and read; praying that they may be put upon the same footing with the officers of the continental line with respect to half pay, and that the benefit of it may be extended to them.

Also, a petition of John Mayo, praying that he may be permitted at his own expense and risk, to build a bridge across James river, between the towns of Richmond and Manchester, with the same toll for passing the same as is now demanded for ferriage at the foot of the falls.

Also, a petition of John Liggon, praying that his house and lot in the city of Richmond, which was taken by the directors of the public buildings for the use of the public, may be restored to him, and that reasonable compensation may be made him for the use of it.

Also, a petition of David Williams, praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, in consideration of his services in the army during the late war.

Also, a petition of Thomas Marshall; setting forth, that in the year 1777, being major of the 3d Virginia regiment, he was by the Executive of this State, appointed to command a regiment of artillery in the State service; and praying that the emoluments and privileges of the other State officers may be extended to him.

*Ordered,* That the said memorial and petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer, for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House, to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills: "to explain and amend the act, 'for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book debts;'" "imposing duties on certain articles in aid of the public revenue;" and "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine,'" being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, November 26, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing several new ferries;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing several new ferries."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill "to amend the act, for equalizing the land tax;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Stuart, Breckenridge, Prentiss, Hancock and Briggs.

A bill, "appropriating the fees of the Land Office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-day.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of David Arell, to them referred, and agreed upon a



report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Arell, was appointed in the month of September 1775, a lieutenant in the minute battalion commanded by Colonel Grayson, and was in service from that time until the month of February following, when he was appointed a lieutenant in the 3d Virginia regiment; in which capacity, and the rank of a captain, he acted until February 1778; when he obtained General Washington's permission to retire from the service for the recovery of his health.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said David Arell, praying that he may be allowed the same portion of land as is by law given to captains serving three years; is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for altering the place of holding courts in the county of Prince George;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomas Smith presented, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled an act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Garland Anderson, be added to the committee for Claims; Mr. Ronald, to the committee for Commerce; and Messrs. William Watkins and Ronald, to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco," into one act.

A petition of Stephen Asbby, was presented to the House, and read; praying to be allowed a bounty of land, in consideration of his services in the American army during the late war.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the city of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive the salaries of the inspectors at Richmond and Rocky Ridge, by no means adequate to their trouble, or the importance of their office; and praying that the same may be enlarged.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that the tract of land in the said county, the property of the Gingaskin tribe of Indians, may be vested in trustees, and that they may be empowered to make such a disposition of it as to them shall seem most advantageous to the said Indians.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Blanks Moody was presented to the House and read; praying relief in consideration of a wound received at the battle of Guilford courthouse, which has rendered him unable to support himself and his family.

Also, a petition of James Markham; praying that the auditors may be directed to liquidate his accounts as an officer of the navy of this State, and grant him certificates for the balance due to him.

Also, a petition of Edmund Read; setting forth, that as captain of a company of dragoons in the service of this State, he received and disbursed, on public account, several considerable sums of paper money, the vouchers for which unfortunately fell into the enemy's hands; and praying that he may be permitted to settle his accounts by some equitable rule.

Also, a petition of James Francis Conand; setting forth, that upon a former application to the Legislature for a liquidation of his claim for medicines furnished the troops in the western country, a committee was appointed to examine his accounts, who, by some mistake, declared a smaller balance to be due to him than there really was at that time; and praying that they may be re-audited, and the balance precisely ascertained.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinions thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Winder, was presented to the House, and read; praying, that he may be permitted to remove from the State of Maryland into the county of Northampton, a sufficient number of slaves for the cultivation of a tract of land, which is his property, in the said county.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee; it passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "appropriating the fees of the land office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also of a chief justice of the western district, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

The House being informed that Mr. William Grayson, one of the members for the county of Prince William, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Saturday last;

*Ordered*, That the said William Grayson be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Privileges and Elections, to inquire into the right of Mr. William Grayson, one of the members for the county of Prince William, for his retaining a seat in this House after his appointment to be one of the delegates representing this State in Congress.

Mr. Breckenridge reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made on Tuesday last to the bill "for punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read.

The first amendment being read a second time, a motion was made, and the question being put to amend the same, by inserting in lieu of the words proposed to be stricken out of the bill, the following words:

"Whereas, it is the desire of the good people of this Commonwealth, in all cases, to manifest their reverence for the law of nations; to cultivate amity and peace, as far as may depend on them, between the United States and foreign powers, and to support the dignity and energy of the Federal Constitution;

*"Be it enacted, by the General Assembly*, That if any citizen or inhabitant of this Commonwealth shall go beyond the limits of the United States, within the acknowledged jurisdiction of any civilized nation; and shall, within the same, commit any crime, for which, in the judgment of the United States in Congress assembled, the law of nations, or any treaty between the United States and a foreign nation requires him to be surrendered to the offended nation; and shall thereafter flee within the limits of this Commonwealth; and the sovereign of the offended nation shall exhibit to the United States in Congress assembled, due and satisfactory evidence of the crime, with a demand of the offender, to be tried and punished where the same was committed; and the United States in Congress assembled, shall thereupon notify such demand to the Executive of this State, and call for the surrender of such offender, the Governor, with the advice of the Council of State, is hereby authorised to cause him to be apprehended, and conveyed and delivered to such person, or persons, as the United States in Congress assembled, may prescribe."

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 41.

Noes, 37.

On a motion made by Mr. Ronald, and seconded by Mr. Alexander White;

*Ordered*, That the ayes and noes on the said question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Edward Carter, Nicholas Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, Archibald Stuart, George Hancock, Samuel Hawes, John Taylor of Caroline, Jacob Morton, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, John Marshall, Thomas Underwood, Isaac Coles, Ralph Humphreys, Nathaniel Wilkerson, William Norvell, William Walker, Philip Barbour, Benjamin Pope, Joseph Jones of King George, Richard Bland Lee, William Anderson, John Breckenridge, Littleton Eyre, James Madison, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, William Mayo, John Clarke, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Walke, Gavin Hamilton, John Hopkins, Thomas Towles, William Brent, William Russell, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, the honorable Mr. Speaker, John Cropper, Wilson Cary Nicholas, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Moses Hunter, John Ward, Thomas Collier, French Strother, James Pendleton, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, George Wray, William Gatewood, Thomas West, William Pickett, John Crittendon, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, Isaac Vanmeter, Garland Anderson, John Seasbrook Wills, John Heath, Anthony Street, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Bennet Tompkins, Thomas Gaskins, William Ronald, Edward Bland, John Fauntleroy, John Hayes, Thomas Edmunds of Surry, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, James Montgomery and Joseph Prentiss.

And then the said amendment, as amended, being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The other amendments to the said bill, being read a second time were, on the question severally put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

And the said bill, being further amended at the clerk's table;

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to explain and amend the act, 'discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act 'prescribing the method of proving book debts,'" "imposing duties on certain articles in aid of the public revenue;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" "for establishing and reviving the inspection of tobacco at sundry places;" and "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



SATURDAY, November 27, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth;" was read the third time; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass;  
It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 44.

Noes, 43.

*Resolved*, That the title of the bill be, "an act, punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Robert Clarke, and seconded by Mr. Ronald;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, Zachariah Johnston, Archibald Stuart, George Hancock, Samuel Hawes, jun. Jacob Morton, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, John Marshall, Thomas Underwood, John Coleman, Ralph Humphreys, William Norvell, William Walker, Philip Barbour, Benjamin Pope, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, William Anderson, John Glenn, John Breckenridge, Littleton Eyre, James Madison, jun. Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, William Mayo, jun. John Clarke, Edmund Ruffin, jun. Thomas Walke, Gavin Hamilton, John Hopkins, Thomas Towles, Bailey Washington, William Brent, William Langhorne, William Russell, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Matthews.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, the honorable Mr. Speaker, John Cropper, Wilson Cary Nicholas, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Moses Hunter, John Ward, Thomas Collier, French Strother, James Pendleton, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, George Wray, William Gatewood, Thomas West, William Pickett, John Crittenden, Roger Thompson, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, Andrew Donnelly, George Clendinnen, Isaac Vanmiter, Garland Anderson, Turner Southall, John Scasbrook Wills, Robert Marshall, Benjamin Temple, John Heath, Anthony Street, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, Daniel Sanford, Bennett Tompkins, Thomas Gaskins, William Ronald, Edward Bland, John Faunderoy, John Hayes, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, James Montgomery, William Russell and Joseph Prentiss.

An engrossed bill, "appropriating the fees of the Land Office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list;" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of ryder, "directing, that when a caveat should be determined in favor of the person who entered it, the fees paid to the register by him shall be returned to the person against whom it was entered;" and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, appropriating the fees of the Land Office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "altering the place of holding courts in the county of Prince George;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Breckenridge presented, according to order, a bill "to continue an act, to revive and amend in part an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Bowyer, praying that the treasurer may be directed to receive of the sheriff of the county of Augusta, all the notes for hemp and deer-skins, delivered at the inspection in the said county, before the 20th of April 1784, in discharge of the taxes for the year 1783, at the prices allowed by law for the same, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Liggon, praying that his lot, which was taken by the directors of the public buildings in the city of Richmond, for the use of the public, and which remains unsold, may be restored to him, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said John Liggon, ought to be allowed and paid for the use of the said lot and houses thereon, at the rate of 50*l.* per annum, to be computed from the 11th day of April 1781, to the time the Executive authorised him to receive the rents for the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee appointed to wait upon the Governor, with the resolution of this House



of Wednesday last, that the committee had, according to order, waited upon him, and presented him with the said resolution, to which he was pleased to return the following answer:

"GENTLEMEN,—I feel myself so deeply impressed with gratitude for the honorable testimony you have been pleased to communicate of the unanimous approbation of my administration by that great and respectable body, the representatives of the people, that words are wanting to express my full sense of the obligations they have laid me under. To deserve well of my country, and to be useful to it, have been my first wishes, and were my only motives for undertaking the arduous task of Government. I am happy to have succeeded so far as to have given general satisfaction; and feel a sensible mortification, that I have not been able to render more essential service. Much is yet wanting before we can enjoy that happiness which nature has placed within the reach of the possessors of this great and fertile country; but I have my hopes that the day is not far distant, when we shall feel and see our own importance, and complete the foundation of our future greatness. I request the favor of you, gentlemen, to represent to your honorable House, the high sense I entertain of the additional obligations they have laid me under, by their polite and friendly wishes for my domestic happiness; and to assure them, I shall ever bear them in grateful remembrance."

BENJAMIN HARRISON."

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That for the more convenient administration of justice throughout this Commonwealth, circuit courts ought to be established.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of every act or acts of Assembly, as impose a tax of 5s. per hundred acres of lands granted by patent, ought to be amended.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that Messrs. Madison, Breck-enridge, Stuart, Tazewell, Corbin, Edmunds of Sussex, and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that Messrs. Matthews, Ronald, and Johnston, do prepare and bring in the same.*

*Resolved, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.*

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved, That the Executive be requested to cause copies of the articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Rights, and the Constitution of this Commonwealth, to be printed and bound together, and to distribute the same through the several counties, in like manner and proportion as the laws are directed to be distributed; and that the Executive be moreover requested to send one copy to every county court clerk, to be by him kept among the records of the same, accessible to all who may think proper to consult them.*

And the resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That Mr. Corbin do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

*Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, for the recovery of slaves, horses, and other property lost during the war;" and that Messrs. Southall, Carter and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.*

On a motion made,

*Ordered, That the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, be discharged from further proceeding upon the accounts, letters, and other papers, respecting the claim of Mr. Oliver Pollock, against this State; and that the same be referred to Messrs. Matthews, Jones of King George, Ronald, John Marshall, and Tazewell.*

A petition of sundry persons, proprietors of the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that an act may pass for establishing the said town, and appointing trustees therefor.

*Ordered, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.*

A petition of Nathaniel Fox, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that notwithstanding a resolution of the Assembly has declared that he shall be entitled to all the privileges and emoluments of an officer of the continental line, yet the auditors refuse to grant him certificates for the commutation of the half pay; and praying that they may be directed to issue the same.

*Ordered, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.*

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to explain and amend the act, discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book-debts;" "imposing duties on certain articles in aid of the public revenue;" "for further continuing and amending the act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" "for establishing and reviving the inspection of tobacco at sundry places;" and "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians," being read;

*Ordered, That the same be put off till Monday next.*

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, November 29, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for altering the place for holding courts in the county of Prince George;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for altering the place for holding courts in the county of Prince George."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for dividing the county of Jefferson, into two distinct counties;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Berkeley and Hampshire, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said counties of Hampshire and Berkeley, praying that a new county may be formed out of the lower end of the former and the upper part of the latter, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said county of Berkeley, in opposition thereto, is reasonable.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Moffett, to them referred, and agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that there are considerable errors in the judgment obtained in the General Court, against the said Moffett, as sheriff of the county of Fauquier, for balance of taxes for the year 1782; that the said Moffett, in order to discharge the balance due on the said judgment, hath sold the tract of land whereon he lived, and deposited the bond for the sale thereof, amounting to 700*l*. and which was payable the 24th of this month, in the hands of his securities; that the estates of the deputy sheriffs, which were conveyed to the said Moffett, and which were the only security he could obtain, will not exceed the value of 4 or 500*l*.; so that he will lose, in any event, by the office of sheriff, near the amount of the sales of his land.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Moffett has paid about 500*l*. in part of the execution issued against his estate, for 1,669*l*. 3*s*. 1*d*.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Moffett, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all further proceedings on the judgment obtained against the said Moffett, in behalf of the Commonwealth, for balance of taxes, ought to be staid until the 1st day of May next.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the interest and damages on the said judgment ought to be remitted the said Moffett; *Provided*, the principal and costs thereof be paid on or before the said 1st day of May.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said report and resolutions be re-committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Hanover and Henrico, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the boundary line between the said counties of Hanover and Henrico, along Chickahominy swamp, has never been ascertained, (except only in a few instances, and those by the consent of persons holding the adjacent lands,) owing to the neglect of the county court of Henrico to appoint commissioners, to meet those appointed by the county court of Hanover for that purpose; and that a majority of the persons holding lands adjacent to the said swamp, are desirous that a boundary line should be established by marked trees.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said counties of Hanover and Henrico, praying that a dividing line between the said counties, may be run along the main branch of Chickahominy swamp, is reasonable; *Provided*, that such line shall not affect the rights of individuals to lands on the said swamp.



*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to enable the representatives of officers entitled to bounties in land for military services, to hold such lands under certain restrictions, though such representatives may be aliens;" and that Messrs. Alexander White, Madison and Prentiss, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend in part the act, 'for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book debts;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which they directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments reported from the committee of the whole House, on Thursday last, to the bill "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters," which lay on the table; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "imposing duties on certain articles, in aid of the public revenue;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the second Monday in November next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That no petitions be presented or received in this House, after Saturday next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Blanks Moody, setting forth, that he was one of the militia ordered from the county of Pittsylvania; and at the battle at Guilford courthouse, received a wound in his right shoulder, which has entirely deprived him of the use of his arm, and compelled him to expend a considerable sum in effecting the cure, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 12*l*. for his present relief, and put on the list of pensioners.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Brandon, praying relief in consideration of the loss of the use of his left side, occasioned by a disorder which he contracted whilst employed as an artificer in the continental army, be rejected.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands, under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" and that Messrs. Marshall, Breckenridge and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of William Payne, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that on the 5th of March 1776, the said William Payne, was appointed a lieutenant in the marine service, in which capacity he acted until he was appointed a captain in the 1st Virginia State regiment, in which rank he served until the 25th day of July 1778, when he resigned his commission.

It also appears to your committee, that the said William Payne, in October 1780, when this State was invaded by General Lesley, raised a volunteer corps of horse, and joined Colonel Sent, who commanded at North West River Bridge, in which service he was badly wounded, and lay confined until some time in April 1781.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Payne, praying that the same bounty in lands may be allowed him, as is by law given to a captain serving three years, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a petition to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Walter Hopkins, Caleb Herbert, James



Herbert, Jonathan Herbert, and Michael Payne, praying that twenty-five acres and a quarter of land at Ferry Point, in the county of Norfolk, which they have laid off into lots and streets, may be established a town, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;'" "for establishing and reviving the inspection of tobacco at sundry places;" and "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 30, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend in part, an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend in part an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Marshall do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for extending to the representatives and devisees, being aliens, of officers or soldiers who have served during the late war, the benefit of lands granted by the laws of this Commonwealth to such officers and soldiers;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Wills presented, according to order, a bill "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from moving the records out of the same;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hanover, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the great extent of the county has, for a considerable time, subjected them to many inconveniences, which would be remedied by dividing it into two distinct counties; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said county, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereto.

Also, a petition of Francis West and Andrew Little, praying that the register of the Land Office, may be directed to issue warrants to them for their bounties of land for military services, to which they are entitled under the proclamation of the King of Great Britain in the year 1763.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants and land holders of the county of Caroline, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an act may pass appointing trustees to superintend the clearing of Mattaponi river.

Also, a petition of Humphrey Walker, and sundry other inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that a tract of land in the said county, which was in the year 1708, laid off for a town, and called Walkerton, may be vested in the heir of John Walker, who was the original proprietor.

Also, a petition of William Pelham; setting forth, that he served as a surgeon's mate and surgeon, from the commencement till the end of the late war; and praying to be allowed a bounty in lands.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Southall presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses, and other property lost during the war;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of John Jameson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that at the defeat of the troops under the command of Col. Buford, he received several wounds, which have rendered him unable to support himself; and praying to be put on the list of pensioners.

Also, a petition of Rine Reipanc; praying that the treasurer may be directed to discharge a warrant which he has received from the auditors of public accounts, for necessaries furnished the troops under the command of General Clarke, in the western country.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco at sundry places;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carrington reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" and "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, December 1, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing and reviving the inspections of tobacco at sundry places;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing and reviving the inspections of tobacco at sundry places."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for extending to the representatives and devisees, being aliens, of officers or soldiers who have served during the late war, the benefit of lands granted by the laws of this Commonwealth to such officers and soldiers;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent their removing the records out of the same;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property, lost during the war;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Mayo, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Mayo, praying that an act may pass, authorising him to erect a toll bridge across James river, between the town of Richmond and Manchester, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the several letters, papers and propositions, respecting the restoration of property escheated, under the laws of escheat and forfeitures from British subjects, which were presented to, and depending at the last session of Assembly, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments reported from the committee of the whole House, on Monday last, to the bill "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, for discouraging extensive credits, and repealing the act, prescribing the method of proving book debts;" which lay on the table, and the same being read, were amended, and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House being informed that Mr. Robert Sayers, one of the members for the county of Montgomery, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Robert Sayers be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their considera-

tion, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Norvell, William Watkins, Towles, Richard Lee, Ronald, and William Thornton.

*Ordered*, That a message be sent to the Senate to inform them, that this House have appointed a committee to examine the treasurer's accounts; and that if they please to appoint a committee of their House for that purpose, both committees may proceed to the business together.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Norvell do carry the said message.

Mr. Carrington reported, according to order, the resolutions agreed to yesterday in the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where they were again read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, by the 4th article of the definitive treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, ratified and exchanged the 12th day of May last, it is stipulated, "that creditors on either side shall meet with no lawful impediment to the recovery of the full value, in sterling money, of all bona fide debts heretofore contracted;" and good faith requiring that the said treaty should be duly executed by the contracting powers, according to the true intent and meaning thereof;

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the legal impediments now existing against the recovery of debts due to British subjects by the citizens of this Commonwealth, ought to be removed.

And whereas, the almost total suspension of commerce, and the devastation and loss of property, sustained by the citizens in the course (and more particularly during the invasions of the enemy) of the late war, hath disabled them from complying with the said 4th article of the treaty, by prompt or speedy payment; and it is conceived it will conduce as much to the interest of the creditors, as contribute to the ease and relief of the debtors, should the balances that may be found due, be discharged in a course of annual payments;

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That provision ought to be made for bringing to settlement, securing and paying off the debts due by citizens of this Commonwealth to British subjects, in conformity with the 4th article of the treaty of peace.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said debts should be divided into seven annual payments; the first of which shall commence and become due on the 1st day of April 1796; that on striking the balance between debtor and creditor, no interest be stated from the 19th day of April in the year 1775, until the 3d day of March 1783, on specialty or otherwise.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That some more speedy and effectual mode of redress, than is now allowed by law, ought to be offered to those who, being answerable as securities for the debts of others, may be brought into danger by the removal of debtors.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That no execution shall be awarded against the body of any citizen, or any judgment which may be obtained agreeably to the foregoing resolutions.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That acts ought to pass to prevent the further operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Carrington, Jones of King George, Madison, Grayson, Carter Henry Harrison and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Edmund Read, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Edmund Read, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be empowered to liquidate and settle his accounts upon his oath, for the disbursements of considerable sums of money advanced him by the public, whilst commanding a troop of horse in Major Nelson's corps of dragoons, the vouchers for a great part of which were destroyed by the enemy in the year 1781, is reasonable; upon the petitioner's previously making oath, that he actually took the necessary vouchers for the disbursements of the said moneys, and that they were destroyed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer immediately advance to Martin Murpley, one year's pension, who has by this present session, been put on the list of pensioners.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution reported from the committee of Claims, respecting William Brandon, which lay on the table; and the same being read, is as follows:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Brandon, praying relief, in consideration of the loss of the use of his left side, occasioned by a disorder which he contracted whilst employed as an



artificer in the continental service, is reasonable; that the treasurer advance him 20*l.* for his present relief, and that he be put on the list of pensioners.

And the said resolution being again twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee, do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it was unanimously resolved, on the 17th day of December 1781, that a bust of the Marquis de la Fayette, be directed to be made in Paris, of the best marble employed for such purposes, with the following inscription:

"This bust was voted on the 17th day of December 1781, by the General Assembly of the State of Virginia, to the honor of the Marquis de la Fayette, major-general in the service of the United States of America, and late commander in chief of the army of the United States in Virginia, as a lasting monument of his merit, and their gratitude;"

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be authorised and desired to defray the expense of carrying the said vote into execution, out of the fund allotted for the contingencies of government; and that he cause the said bust to be presented in the name of this Commonwealth, to the city of Paris, with a request that the same may be accepted and preserved in some public place in the said city.

*Resolved, unanimously*, That as a further mark of the lasting esteem of this Commonwealth, for the illustrious qualities and services of the Marquis de la Fayette, the Governor with advice of Council, be authorised and desired to cause another bust of him, with a similar inscription, to be procured by draft on the said fund; and that the same, when procured, be fixed in such public place at the seat of government, as may hereafter be appointed for the erection of the statue voted by the General Assembly to General Washington.

And the said resolutions being twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of Alexander Spotswood was presented to the House, and read; praying to be allowed such a bounty in lands, as his services in the American army during the late war, may entitle him to.

Also, a petition of Richard Apperson, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Samuel Bell, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of James Purvis, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of William Carter, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Vivian Brooking; praying that the interest and damages, upon a judgment obtained against him as sheriff of Amelia county, for the balance of the taxes due for the year 1782, may be remitted.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Hugh Wallace, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the treasurer may be directed to pay him immediately the arrears of the pension which was granted him in the year 1778, in consideration of a wound received at the battle at Brandywine.

Also, a petition of Patrick Lockhart; praying that a sum of money which he paid for a mare for the public service, whilst serving in the quarter-master's department, may be reimbursed to him.

Also, a petition of Thomas Mountjoy; praying that a sum of money expended by him on public account, whilst employed in the recruiting service, may be reimbursed to him.

Also, a petition of Thomas Gist; praying that the auditors may be directed to grant him warrants for a pension which was granted him for life, in the year 1763, in consequence of a wound received in an engagement with the Indians.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Peter Lafargue and Company, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in pursuance of instructions from the Executive, the solicitor general has liquidated their accounts against the State, but has made from them considerable deductions which they conceive are neither just nor reasonable; and praying that their accounts may be reaudited; and that the fund out of which the balance may be paid, may be pointed out.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the vestrymen of Southfarnham parish in the county of Essex, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the vestry of the said parish may be dissolved, and another elected in its place.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockbridge, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive any interference of the Legislature in aid of religion by assessments for its support or otherwise, unequal, impolitic and without their power; and that many evils flow from the present constitution of government, which being only a temporary measure, adopted without the assent of the people, is found to possess many defects, and to require reform, and amendment; and praying that no step may be taken in aid of religion, but that it be left to its own superior and successful influence; and that by a convention of the people; to be recommended by this House, or some other proper mode, the constitution of government may be revised, amended and rendered permanent.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Religion; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Montgomery, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they suffer many inconveniences from the exactions and impositions of public officers, and the present mode of administering justice, as well as from their remote and distant situation from the seat of government; and praying that the Legislature will make some full and effectual provision for their relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, "for establishing circuit courts;" that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "for further continuing and amending the act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, December 2, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Dandridge Claiborne, one of the members for the county of King William, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Saturday the 13th ultimo;

*Ordered*, That the said Dandridge Claiborne be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Peter Saunders, one of the members for the county of Henry, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Peter Saunders be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for extending to the representatives and devisees, being aliens of officers or soldiers who have served during the late war, the benefit of lands granted by the laws of this Commonwealth to such officers and soldiers;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for extending to the representatives and devisees, being aliens of officers or soldiers who have served during the late war, the benefit of lands granted by the laws of this Commonwealth to such officers and soldiers."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for the encouragement of marriages with the Indians;" was read the third time, and the question being put, that the said bill do pass;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

Mr. William Watkins presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco into one act,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions to them referred, and agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, in the case of John Moffett, that in order to discharge the balance due on the judgment obtained against him in the General Court, he hath sold the tract of land whereon he lived, and deposited the bond for the sale thereof, amounting to 700*l*. and which was payable the 24th of November last, in the hands of his securities; that the estates of his deputy sheriff's which were conveyed to him, and which were the only security he could obtain, will not exceed the value of four or five hundred pounds; so that he will lose in any event by the office of sheriff nearly the amount of the sale of his lands.

It also appears that the said Moffett, has paid about 500*l*. in part of the execution issued against his estate for 1,669*l*. 3*s*. 1*d*.

It appears to your committee in the case of James Purvis, that he enlisted in the 1st Virginia regiment, on the 5th day of September 1775; and on the 7th day of March 1777, was appointed an ensign, in which capacity he acted until the 18th of February 1778, when he resigned; that in the month of January 1779, he was appointed a lieutenant in the regiment to guard the convention prisoners: in which capacity and that of a captain, he acted until the month of June 1781, when the said regiment was disbanded.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Moffett, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all further proceedings on the judgment obtained against the said Moffett, on behalf of the Commonwealth for the balance of taxes, be stayed until the 1st of May next.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the interest and damages on the said judgment be remitted the said Moffett, provided the principal and costs thereof be paid on or before the 1st day of May next.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said James Purvis, praying that he may

be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a captain serving three years in the continental army, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Caroline, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such part of the petition of the inhabitants of the said county of Caroline, as prays that the persons holding lands on the river Mattaponi, may be compelled to defray the expense of clearing the same, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such further parts of the said petition, as pray that the expense of clearing the said river, may be defrayed by the counties of King and Queen, King William and Caroline, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the said river may be cleared by subscription, and thereafter kept clear of hedges or stops made for catching fish, or other obstructions occasioned by such hedges or stops, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the last resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Jane Vobe, praying that she may receive payment of a liquidated claim against the public, amounting to 91*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* being the balance of General Nelson's expenses, incurred by him whilst he boarded at the petitioner's house in the city of Williamsburg, during his command of the militia of this State, in the year 1781, is reasonable; and that the same ought to be paid to the petitioner, out of the military fund.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Peter Francisco, praying that he may receive from the public some compensation for his particular services, whilst acting as a volunteer light dragoon to the southward in Colonel Washington's legionary corps; and also, that an allowance may be made him for a valuable horse and accoutrements which he lost whilst in that service, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by House, as followeth:

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of the committee of the Cincinnati Society of this State; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Corbin presented, according to order, a bill "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Marshall presented, according to order, a bill "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5*s.* per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Coleman have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing a letter from the honorable Samuel Hardy, esq. and a copy of the treaty of peace concluded between the United States and the Six Nations; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of William Johnson and Isaac Burnet, executors of Richard Johnson, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1770, their testator was prosecuted on behalf of the king, for a libel, and was, by the general court, fined 1000*l.*; that their testator has left a wife and four children who would be greatly distressed if the said fine was levied on his estate; and praying that the same may be remitted.



Also, a petition of sundry officers, on behalf of themselves and others who were formerly stationed at Fort Rauldolph on the river Ohio; praying that the auditors may be directed to grant them certificates for the depreciation of their pay; and that they may in other respects be put on the same footing with the troops on continental establishment.

Also, a petition of the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the town of Alexandria; praying that an act may pass appointing Robert Adam, Richard Conway, George Gilpin, John Saunders and Neill Mooney, commissioners for the purpose of levelling the streets in the said town; and that they may be empowered to adopt such other rules and regulations respecting the same, as to them shall seem best.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Alexandria, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive the nomination of the commissioners for superintending the levelling the streets in the said town by the Common Council, as highly injudicious, two of the gentlemen having actually prejudged and determined the same, and whose opinions were by no means approved of by the petitioners; and praying that the said nomination may be altered.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A memorial of the merchants, traders and other inhabitants of the town of Fredericksburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they expected after the glorious termination of the late war, that we should enjoy an unrestrained trade with the whole world; but to their astonishment, find that many of the commercial powers in Europe, particularly Great Britain, have laid such restrictions upon American trade as almost entirely to prohibit it; that as commerce can only be supported upon the grounds of reciprocity, they hope the Legislature of Virginia will exert itself to have these restraints removed, or that foreigners may be subject to them in America.

*Ordered*, That the said memorial be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills, "for further continuing and amending the act for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" and "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, December 3, 1784.

An engrossed bill "for further continuing the act 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act for further continuing the act 'for calling in and funding the paper money of this State.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill "for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Wednesday next.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled an act, to 'amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "for establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands, under the present and former government, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

A bill, "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" was read the second time and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

Mr. Watkins presented, according to order, a bill "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Norvell reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the vestry of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield; and of Wilham Logwood and Richard Elam, to them referred, and agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions

thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the present boundary between the glebe of the said parish, and the lands of the petitioner William Logwood, is Isham's Branch, which, from the great variety of its meanderings, makes no less than forty-eight courses in the distance of three quarters of a mile.

It further appears to your committee, that it would be mutually advantageous to the rector of the said parish, and the petitioner William Logwood, if the vestry were empowered to straighten the line between the said lands, and to exchange such parts of the glebe as would by this means be annexed to the lands of the said William Logwood, for such parts of his lands as would be annexed to the said glebe:

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the said petition, as prays that an act may pass, empowering the vestry to straighten the line between the said lands, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the vestry may be empowered to run a straight line between the said glebe and the lands of the petitioner Richard Elam, the present boundary of which is Swift Creek, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Religion, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Fauntleroy have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Friday se'night.

A bill, "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, granting Benjamin Spiller a bounty in lands; also, to the bills "to establish a town on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" and "giving John Hoomes the exclusive right of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places, for a limited time, and for other purposes." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Joseph Anderson, praying to be put on the list of pensioners, to them referred, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Executive ought to be authorised to put on the pension list all officers and soldiers, who have been wounded in the service of their country, and whom they may think entitled to the same, upon application being made to them therefor.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petitions of David Williams and Stephen Ashby, to them referred, and agreed upon a report, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said David Williams was appointed a lieutenant in the 12th Virginia regiment in December 1776, and continued to act in that capacity until December 1779, when he was allowed to retire from the service until he should be called on, or until there should be a command for him in the army; that early in the year 1781, the said David Williams went to the westward, and during his absence a board of officers convened at Cumberland Old Courthouse, and superseded him as an absentee, but their proceedings were never approved of by the commander in chief.

It appears to your committee, that the said Stephen Ashby entered into the continental army in the year 1776, with the rank of captain, and continued to act as such until the reduction of the army, which took place in the year 1778, when he became a supernumerary; that afterwards he was employed in the recruiting service, and in collecting and marching recruits to the places of general rendezvous, for near twelve months.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said David Williams, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands, as is by law given to a lieutenant serving three years, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Stephen Ashby, praying that he may be allowed the same portion of lands, as is by law given to a captain serving three years, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence. Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Harrison, praying that a town may be established at the place fixed on for holding courts in the said county, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Thomas, sheriff of the county of Rockingham, is reasonable.



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the treasurer ought to receive from the said John Thomas, all certificates for hemp and deer skins, which bear date prior to the 20th of April, and were payable by law, in discharge of the taxes due the 1st day of January 1784.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the interest and damages on the judgment obtained against the said John Thomas be remitted, provided the principal and costs thereof be paid on or before the 1st day of May next.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the inspectors of tobacco at Blandford, Davis's, and Boyd's, is reasonable; and that they be credited by the auditors of public accounts in their next settlement, all such sums of money as they may have paid into the treasury, over and above the duty, or taxes payable by law between the 30th of June and the 1st day of October 1783.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the liquidation of Edmund Read's accounts. And then he withdrew.

A petition of Edmund Curd, was presented to the House, and read; praying that compensation may be made him for a horse, which he surrendered for the use of the army, whilst commanding a company of militia to the southward.

Also, a petition of Abraham Buford, praying that the treasurer may be directed to discharge two warrants which he received in November 1783, and which were not payable out of any particular fund.

Also, a petition of Harrison Jones, praying to be put on the list of pensioners, in consideration of a wound which he received at the battle at Guilford courthouse, and which renders him unable to support himself.

Also, a petition of James Haggard; setting forth, that during his services in the army, he caught a violent cold by being detached on duty before he was perfectly recovered from the smallpox, which has thrown him into a consumption; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Amy Barrett; setting forth, that her husband was a lieutenant on board an armed brig in the service of this State, and being taken prisoner, after a long imprisonment in New-York, died, leaving herself and two children to support by her labor; and praying that she may receive the arrearages of his pay, and that some provision may also be made for her support.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the trustees of the town of Portsmouth, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the act establishing the said town, appointed only seven trustees, which number is too small; and praying that it may be enlarged to twelve.

Also, a petition of Daniel Brown, praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, in consideration of his services in the American army, during the late war.

Also, a petition of Charles Lee, late sheriff of the county of Northumberland; setting forth, that the severity of the last winter, and the inability of the people to get their tobacco inspected, prevented his collecting the taxes for the year 1783, before the law for receiving commutables had expired; after which, the treasurer refused to receive them; the solicitor has since obtained a judgment against the petitioner, for the balance that now remains due; and praying that the same may be suspended, until he shall be enabled to discharge the same, and the interest and damages on the said judgment be remitted.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Charles City, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the court day of the said county is inconvenient, interfering with those of Henrico and New Kent, and praying that the same may be altered.

Also, a petition of Sarah Greene; setting forth, that being a slave, and the property of the Rev. Charles Greene, deceased, he, in consideration of her faithful services, at his death, directed his wife to liberate the petitioner and her children; that the widow of the said Greene, soon after intermarrying with a certain Dr. William Savage, insisted, before the said marriage, that she should be at liberty to emancipate the petitioner, and her children, whenever she thought proper, which the said Savage agreed to; and the petitioner enjoyed her liberty for many years; but at the death of the said Savage, a certain Mr. Rice attempted by force to carry her and her children to Carolina, alleging that he had a legal right to them; and praying that an act may pass confirming the liberty of herself and children.

Also, a petition of Mary Ellegood; setting forth, that her husband, Jacob Ellegood, on account of the part which he took in the late war, is prohibited from returning to his native country; that, except in this instance, his character has ever been irreproachable; and praying that he may be permitted to return, and attend to the support of his family and education of his children.

Also, a petition of the societies of the people called Menonists and Dunkards, in the county of Rockingham; setting forth, that the tenets of their religion forbidding them to take up arms, they have failed to attend the musters and other military calls in the said county, and have been compelled to pay fines for such their neglect; and praying that an act may pass exempting them from all military duty.



*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry persons of the militia of Hampshire county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that since the restoration of peace, they conceive four private and one general muster in every year, would be sufficient for the purpose of disciplining the militia; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections."

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice of the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" and "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, December 4, 1784.

A bill, "to prevent the further operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee to whom was referred the Governor's letter, covering sundry certificates transmitted by Oliver Pollock, Esq. in support of his claim against this State, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, on having recourse to the Journals of your House, that a resolution of the General Assembly, passed the 27th of December 1782, directing the auditors to issue warrants in favor of the said Oliver Pollock, for 3000*l*. in part of his demand upon this State, and having made application to the auditors, are informed that warrants for the said 3000*l*. were accordingly issued, bearing date the 7th of January 1783.

It further appears to your committee, that in consequence of the said resolution, the following certificates were granted to the said Oliver Pollock, bearing date the 7th of January 1783, viz: 3000*l*. payable the 1st of January 1784; 3000*l*. payable the 1st of January 1785; and 11,469*l*. 18*s*. payable the 1st of January 1787, all which certificates, amounting to 17,469*l*. 18*s*. carry interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, from the date thereof until payment.

It further appears to your committee, that by the said resolution, it is admitted that a farther sum, to a considerable amount, is due to the said Oliver Pollock; but the auditors are directed to postpone issuing certificates for the same, until Mr. Pollock finds such security as may be approved of by the delegates representing this State in Congress, for the indemnification of the State from any demands for certain bills drawn by him on Fenet de Costa, Freres and Company.

It further appears to your committee, that by a resolution of the General Assembly, passed in the session of May 1783, for reasons therein specified, the auditors were directed to issue no more warrants in favor of the said Oliver Pollock, and the treasurer to make no payments on those already issued, until further orders from the General Assembly; which resolution your committee beg leave to refer to. Your committee having inspected the said Oliver Pollock's accounts, and compared them with the vouchers and certificates transmitted by him in support of his demands on this State, and having referred to the report of the commissioners appointed to liquidate and adjust the claims of western creditors, and having also paid due regard to the aforesaid resolutions of the General Assembly, are of opinion that a larger sum will, on a fair adjustment of Mr. Pollock's accounts, be found due to him, than the amount of the certificates which have been granted him; but it requiring more time to form a correct statement of those accounts, and to examine the vouchers transmitted in support of them, than your committee can devote to that business, they are of opinion, the final liquidation of them ought to be committed to persons of reputation, skilled in accounts. Your committee have also considered the memorial at the same time referred to them, stating the distressed situation of Mr. Pollock's wife and children, and find they are at present in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, without any other dependence for a support than the benevolence of their friends; and are of opinion that a sum of money ought to be paid to Mrs. Pollock for her immediate relief.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the suspension imposed by a resolution of May session 1783, in Mr. Pollock's case, ought to be withdrawn, and the certificates granted to Mr. Pollock, to the amount of 17,469*l*. 18*s*. considered as good and valid, as if the said suspension had never taken place.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer do pay from the collection of the revenue for 1783, the balance which may be now due on the warrants granted Oliver Pollock, dated the 7th day of January 1783, with interest thereon at the rate of six per centum per annum, from the date until payment; and that the same

be ultimately made good out of the money arising under the act, entitled "an act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due foreign creditors."

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor, with the advice of the Council, do direct a re-settlement of the said Oliver Pollock's accounts to be made, by referring the same to persons skilled in accounts, to be appointed by the Executive on the part of this State, and by the said Pollock or his agent on his behalf; and that such settlement be laid before the General Assembly at their next meeting, that funds may be appropriated for the payment of any balance which may appear due from this State to the said Oliver Pollock.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the auditors do issue their warrants on the treasurer to pay to Mr. William Turnbull, as agent for the said Oliver Pollock, in part of the certificates granted to the said Pollock, the sum of 1000 dollars immediately, and the further sum of 1000 dollars on the 1st day of May next, to be charged to the said Oliver Pollock in account with this Commonwealth, and applied by the agent of the said Pollock, in support of Mrs. Pollock and her family; and that the auditors do take in certificates equal to the amount of such warrants.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Harrison, and Mann Page, be added to the committees for Religion and Courts of Justice, and to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees."

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "empowering the courts of Augusta and Rockbridge, to keep in repair the road leading through Rockfish gap;" and that Messrs. Johnson, Breckenridge and Hays, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of sundry merchants to them referred, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry merchants, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an act may pass, authorising the drawback of duties paid on the original importation of goods, wares and merchandize, into this State, upon their being exported to another State, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to revive and amend the several acts of Assembly, imposing duties on imports;" do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the treasurer be directed to pay the sum of 100*l.* voted by a former resolution of the Assembly, to Doctor John De Sequeyra, out of the contingent fund appropriated to the support of civil government.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Norvell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Buckner, to them referred, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said William Buckner, collector of the levies of the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange, in the year 1776, praying that he may be authorised and allowed to pay off a judgment obtained against him in the court of the said county, for 9,861 lbs. of tobacco in the year 1781, the balance due to the said parish for the said collection, at the rate of 10*s.* per hundred; and that all persons indebted to him for arrears of levies in the year 1776, may be allowed to discharge the same in money at the rate of 10*s.* per hundred at their option; and that he may be authorised to make distress for the same, and be allowed for all insolvents prior to this period, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments, to them referred, and agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments served several years with the continental army; were credited as part of this State's quota of troops, and paid by Congress; that by several resolutions of Assembly, they were declared entitled to the same emoluments and privileges as continental troops.

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the memorial of the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments, praying to be allowed the commutation upon similar principles and under the like regulations, as the same is allowed to continental troops, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Walke presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of



Kempsville, in the county of Princess Anne;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Norvell reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Abraham Buford to them referred, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Abraham Buford, setting forth, that in consequence of a resolution of a former Assembly, two warrants were issued in his favor for 33l. 6s. 8d. each, being for monies expended by him in collecting recruits for the service of this State, and payable out of any unappropriated money in the treasurer's hands; but as the whole revenue of this State is appropriated, he cannot receive payment of the said warrants, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the same ought to be paid to the petitioner out of the military fund.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Norvell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to continue an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend in part, an act, entitled 'an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" and "concerning entries and surveys on the western waters." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for altering the court day of the county of Chesterfield;" and "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service." And then he withdrew.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the said county may be divided; and that part of the county of Bedford may be added to a part of the said county, and formed into a distinct one.

Also, a petition of Willis Wilson, late sheriff of the county of Surry; setting forth, that the inclemency of the last winter, and the indisposition of his deputies, prevented his completing the collection of the taxes for the year 1783 in time; since which, the solicitor has obtained a judgment against him for the balance due, with interest and damages; and praying that the said interest and damages may be remitted.

Also, a petition of sundry Pilots, of the county of Elizabeth City, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the rate of pilotage from Hampton Roads to Norfolk, may be enlarged; and that one-fifth may be added to the rate of pilotage of vessels drawing less than ten feet water.

Also, a petition of George Walls; praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, in consideration of his services in the American army, during the late war.

Also, a petition of Robert Sayres, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John Lawrence, late sheriff of the county of Isle of Wight; setting forth, that in consequence of his failure to complete the collection of the taxes for the year 1783, which proceeded from the sickness of himself and deputies, the solicitor obtained a judgment against him for the balance due the public; and praying that the interest and damages thereon, may be remitted.

Also, a petition of James, a negro slave; setting forth, that being impelled by a most earnest desire of gaining that liberty which is so dear to all mankind, and convinced that if he rendered any essential services to the public, that that would be his reward, he often during the invasion of the enemy in the year 1781, at the risk of his life, entered into the enemy's camp, and collected such intelligence as he supposed of importance, and which he conveyed in the most expeditious manner to the Marquis de la Fayette, who then commanded the American army in Virginia; and praying that an act may pass for his emancipation; and that a reasonable compensation may be made for him, to his present proprietor.

Also, a petition of William Smith, deputy sheriff of the county of Powhatan; setting forth, that in consequence of his ill state of health, and the death of his colleague, he has been unable to complete the collection of the taxes for the year 1783; and that a judgment has been obtained against him for the balance due the public; and praying that the said judgment may be suspended for a reasonable time; and that the interest and damages thereon may be remitted.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, proprietors of tobacco warehouses at the public inspections, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive the present rent allowed for each hogshead of tobacco, is by no means adequate to their trouble and the expense of building and repairing the warehouse; and praying that the same may be enlarged.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Walkerton, and others, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex; praying for the discontinuance of the said town.

Also, a petition of Robert Stuart, setting forth, that he is a native and citizen of this State, and son of Thomas Stuart, late of the town of Portsmouth; that, being a mariner, during his absence from the State, two slaves, the property of his father, were found to escheat to the Commonwealth as the property of a British subject; and purchased for the use of the public; and praying that the said slaves may be restored to him.



Also, a petition of Thomas Allen; setting forth, that he was, in the year 1776, appointed wagon-master to the 3d Virginia regiment, and acted in that capacity as a forage-master, and as an assistant in the quarter-master's department, upwards of three years, during which he expended considerable sums from his private purse on public account, and furnished sundry horses for the use of the army; and praying that his accounts, as well for the depreciation of his pay, as his advances for the public, may be liquidated, and certificates granted him for the balance; and that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as captains serving three years.

Also, a petition of John Nelson; setting forth, that in June 1776, he was appointed a captain in Bland's regiment of dragoons, and continued therein until his ill state of health compelled him to retire; that in the year 1778, he entered as a volunteer in a regiment of cavalry, and in the year 1779, was appointed to command a corps of cavalry raised in this State, which he held until the conclusion of the war; and praying that he may be allowed the same privileges and emoluments as have been granted to those officers of the State line, who have been put upon the same footing with those upon continental establishment.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that that part of the said county included within the parish of St. Bride's, may be added to that part of Princess Anne, called Blackwater, and formed into a distinct county.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of David Ross, was presented to the House, and read; praying that provision may be made for the discharge of a part of his demand against the State, for money and tobacco advanced by him for the public.

Also, a petition of James Kemp; praying that the auditors may be directed to settle his accounts for the depreciation of his pay as purveyor to the hospital, under the direction of Doctor Rickman, during the late war.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the State of Maryland, and also of this State, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive it would greatly contribute to the extension of commerce, and the improvement of agriculture, if the river Potomac was made navigable from the falls, and a communication opened by that means with the western country; and praying that an act may pass establishing a company, to be invested with full powers for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" and "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### MONDAY, December 6, 1784.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of Kempsville in the county of Princess Anne,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of Louisville,'" and that Messrs. Lee, Corbin, Grayson and Barbour, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the late war,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear were noted, and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Michael Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Augusta; Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; George Hancock, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Thomas Claiborne, one of the members for the county of Brunswick; John Nicholas and Charles Patteson, members for the county of Buckingham; James Adams, one of the members for the county of Campbell; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; William

Watkins, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Alexander Henderson and Thomas West, members for the county of Fairfax; William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; George Clendinnen, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; James Wall, one of the members for the county of Greenville; Robert Marshall, one of the members for the county of Isle of Wight; Edmund Byne, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; John Logan and George Slaughter, members for the county of Lincoln; William Randolph and Samuel Goode, members for the county of Mecklenburg; Benjamin Wilson and Francis Worman, members for the county of Monongalia; Kinchen Godwin, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; John Watkins, one of the members for the county of New Kent; John Thornton, one of the members for the county of Northumberland; Ebenezer Zane and David Shepherd, members for the county of Ohio; William Dix, one of the members for the county of Pittsylvania; William Mayo, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; Edward Bland, one of the members for the county of Prince George; Alexander Scott Bullitt, one of the members for the county of Prince William; Landon Carter, one of the members for the county of Richmond; John Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Albrington Jones, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Bailey Washington, one of the members for the county of Stafford; Thomas Edmunds, one of the members for the county of Sussex; Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Joseph Prentiss, one of the members for the county of York; and Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as follows:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive be authorised and directed to concert with the commissioners of the United States' Loan Office, within this Commonwealth, for the time being, such precautions as may be necessary to prevent counterfeits of certificates directed to be issued from that office, for interest accruing on Loan Office certificates, and other liquidated continental debts.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass for incorporating the Cincinnati Society, with power to make such disposition of their funds as may best promote the purposes of the institution.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Matthews, Madison, Harrison, Corbin, Page and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.*

*Resolved, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.*

*Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts, for preventing counterfeiting of certain certificates, into one act;" and that Mr. Carrington do prepare and bring in the same.*

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.*

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, for clearing the Mattaponi river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "authorising John Mayo to build a toll bridge across James river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning the arrears of levies due in the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the first and second State regiments;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town at Ferry Point, in the county of Norfolk;" and the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered, That a committee of three members be appointed to inquire into the progress made by the printers employed by order of this House to print a certain number of copies of the revised laws; also, a digest of the laws of this State, submitted to the General Assembly.*

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Breckenridge, William Thornton, and Stuart.

Mr. Johnston presented, according to order, a bill "for keeping in repair the pass at Rock-fish gap;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for

the ensuing year; and of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flax, tar, pitch and turpentine;" "to compel the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same;" and "to prevent the future operation of the law concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 7, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. John Watkins, one of the members for the county of New Kent; Mr. Francis Peyton, one of the members for the county of Loudoun; Mr. George Clendinnen, one of the members for the county of Greenbrier; Mr. Edward Bland, one of the members for the county of Prince George; Mr. Richard Lee, one of the members for the county of Westmoreland; Mr. William Pickett, one of the members for the county of Fauquier; and Mr. William Mayo, one of the members for the county of Powhatan, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse their absence when the House was called over yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said John Watkins, Francis Peyton, George Clendinnen, Edward Bland, Richard Lee, William Pickett and William Mayo, be admitted to their seats, without paying fees.

A bill, "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the first and second State regiments;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Saturday next.

A bill, "to amend the act, for clearing the Mattaponi river; was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "authorising John Mayo to build a toll bridge across James river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "concerning the arrears of levies due in the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing a town at Ferry Point, in the county of Norfolk;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for keeping in repair the pass at Rock-fish gap;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for establishing the town of Kempsville, in the county of Princess Anne;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, entitled 'an act for establishing the town of Kempsville, in the county of Princess Anne."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Walke do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing an act, entitled 'an act concerning pensioners;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, concerning pensioners."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing the town of Clarksburg in the county of Harrison;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for amending the several acts of Assembly concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and that Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Benjamin Harrison, and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing a paper containing sundry observations of the solicitor general, upon the difficulties which have occurred in the execution of his office; which were read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Briggs be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for incorporating the Cincinnati Society."

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.



*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for granting bounties of land to James Purvis, Simon Summers, David Allen and William Payne; directing the auditors to issue certificates to John Chiles and William Meade; for putting Thomas Wyatt, William Brandon, George Hite and Blanks Moody, on the list of pensioners; for advancing one year's pension to Martin Murphey; directing the treasurer to pay a sum of money to Jane Vobe; and respecting John Moffett. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Norvell reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the vestrymen of the parish of Southfarnham, in the county of Essex, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said vestrymen of the parish of Southfarnham, praying that an act may pass for dissolving the said vestry, and electing another in its place, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Religion do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the resolution; and that Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Grayson and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Religion, be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockbridge; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of beef, pork, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine';" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands, under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office';" "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act';" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property, lost during the war,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 8, 1764.

The House being informed that Mr. Henry Tazewell, member for the city of Williamsburg; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Henry Tazewell be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. John Nicholas, one of the members for the county of Buckingham, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Nicholas be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town at Ferry Point, in the county of Norfolk;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town at Ferry Point, in the county of Norfolk."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the arrears of levies due in the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the arrears of levies due in the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for keeping in repair the pass at Rock-fish gap;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for keeping in repair the pass at Rock-fish gap."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Johnston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same;"

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the trustees of the town of Portsmouth, praying that an act may pass, for adding five more trustees to those already appointed for the said town, and for making the elections of them annually; is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Francis West and Andrew Little, praying that the register may be directed to issue warrants to them, for bounties of land for their services in the army during the last war, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry officers on behalf of themselves and others, who were stationed at Fort Randolph, on the river Ohio, during the last war, praying that their accounts may be liquidated, and warrants granted them for the depreciation of their pay, be rejected.

The 1st resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d and 3d resolutions being again read were, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to the same committee.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "authorising John Mayo to build a bridge across James river," was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read;

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be recommitted to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying a sum of money to Abraham Buford, and for printing and publishing the articles of confederation and the constitution, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;' and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, do lie on the table.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Peter Lafargue & Co. to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Peter Lafargue & Co. setting forth, that they presented a petition to the last Assembly, for payment of a vessel with her load of tobacco, which was impressed from them in the year 1781, by a certain Robert Crew, then a commissary in the service of this State.

That in consequence thereof, the Executive were directed to cause a settlement of the petitioner's claim to be made, which has been done by the solicitor, but in a manner which they conceive to be very unjust and injurious to them; and praying a resettlement thereof, is reasonable.

And for that purpose, that two persons ought to be appointed; one to be chosen by the petitioners, and the other by the solicitor, on the part of this Commonwealth, to examine and settle the petitioners' said claim, and that their report, or the report of a third person, to be chosen by them in case of their disagreement, ought to be binding between the petitioners and the Commonwealth: which report ought to be made to the Executive for a warrant to issue in their favor, for such sum as shall be stated to be due to them.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer, for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" "for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" "to prevent the further operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses, and other property during the war," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 9, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments reported from the committee of the whole House, yesterday, to the bill "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands, under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" which lay on the table, and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Norvell presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Southfarnham in the county of Essex;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, according to order, a bill "establishing a company for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing one from the honorable Mr. Hardy; which were read and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting sundry inspectors of tobacco; and for allowing a bounty in lands to Stephen Ashby; also, they have passed the bill "for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Porter have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'night. The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill



"for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ronald reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inspect the enrolled bills.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Thomas Smith, Breckenridge, Nelson, Briggs and Nicholas.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" and "to amend the act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 10, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. James Wall, one of the members for the county of Greenville; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said James Wall, be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claims to unpatented lands under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for further continuing and amending the act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for establishing several new ferries;" "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State;" and "for altering the place of holding courts in the county of Prince George;" also, to the resolutions, concerning John Thomas; directing the treasurer to receive of the sheriff of Augusta sundry notes for hemp and deer skins; and for allowing a sum of money to Doctor John De Sequeyra. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, respecting Oliver Pollock's claim against this State; also, to the bill "for appropriating the fees of the Land Office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, "establishing a company for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for establishing a town at Ferry Point, in the county of Norfolk;” and “concerning the arrears of levies due in the parish of Saint Thomas, in the county of Orange.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill “to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, “for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Southfarnham, in the county of Essex;” was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the resolutions respecting the officers and soldiers stationed at Fort Randolph, and Francis West and Andrew Little, were committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry officers and soldiers on behalf of themselves and others who were stationed at Fort Randolph on the river Ohio, during the late war, praying that their accounts may be liquidated, and warrants granted them for the depreciation of their pay, be rejected.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Francis West and Andrew Little, praying that the register may be directed to issue warrants to them for bounties of land, for their services in the army during the late war, be rejected.*

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Willoughby, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Willoughby was sheriff of the county of Norfolk, in the year 1782; that the people being unable from the great scarcity of specie, and the ravages of the enemy in the preceding year, to pay their taxes, the petitioner, in compliance with the law, proceeded to distrain their effects, which he exposed to sale in vain, the people being both unable and unwilling to purchase them.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner actually paid into the treasury upwards of 4,000*l.*; and that the solicitor obtained a judgment against him in the General Court for the balance of 400*l.* with interest and damages:

Whereupon, your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Willoughby, praying that the interest and damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court, for the balance of taxes due from county of Norfolk for the year 1782, may be remitted, is reasonable.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;” “for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;” “establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;” “to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;” “to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;” “to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;” and “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war,’ being read;

*Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.*

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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#### SATURDAY, December 11, 1784.

An engrossed bill, “for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Southfarnham in the county of Essex;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Southfarnham in the county of Essex.”*

*Ordered, That Mr. Norvell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

A bill, “to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, according to order, a bill “for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, according to order, a bill “to amend the act, for levying certain taxes in

aid of the public revenue, and applying the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received on Monday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

*X* MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for keeping in repair the road at Rock-fish gap." And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments;" "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 13, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Samuel Goode, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on Monday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Samuel Goode be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. William Watkins, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; and Mr. Thomas Edmunds, one of the members for the county of Sussex; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said William Watkins and Thomas Edmunds, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for appropriating the fees of the Land Office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being read,

*X Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, "to amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of James Francis Command; setting forth, that he presented a petition to a former Assembly for the liquidation of his claim against the public, for medicines furnished the troops in the western country; and also for his services as a physician and surgeon to the said troops; that the committee appointed to examine his accounts have mistaken his claim, and allowed him a sum very inadequate thereto; and praying a re-settlement thereof, is reasonable; and that the petitioner's said claim ought to be referred to the auditors of public accounts, to examine and settle, and to issue a warrant in his favor for such sum as they shall find to be due to him.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Walter Hopkins; setting forth, that he was employed by the Executive in the year 1777, to go to Charlestown for the purpose of laying out a sum of public money, in the purchase of necessities for the use of our troops; that by the agreement, he was to be allowed a commission on the said sum of money, as a compensation for his trouble and expenses, which he has never received, and



praying relief, is reasonable; that the petitioner's claim ought to be referred to the Executive for settlement; and that a warrant ought to issue for such sum as shall appear to be due to him.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Haggard, late a soldier in the Virginia line, praying some relief from the public, in consideration of a violent disorder which he has contracted, in consequence of his being inoculated for the smallpox whilst in service, and which has rendered him unable to labor, be rejected.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Edward Curd, praying that compensation may be made him by the public, for a horse, saddle and bridle, which were taken from him by order of General Edward Stephens, for the use of the army to the southward, in the year 1780, and which have never been returned to the petitioner, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed the sum of 20*l.* for the same, to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

5. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Ash, setting forth, that during the late war, he enlisted as a soldier in the service of this State, and as a bounty he was entitled to 1000 lbs. of tobacco, which he has never received; and praying that the auditors of public accounts may issue a warrant in his favor for the said bounty, is reasonable.

6. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of James Kempe, praying that his accounts for depreciation of pay and subsistence, due him for services as purveyor to the continental hospital in Williamsburg, under the appointment of Doctor Rickman, may be liquidated by the auditors of public accounts, and certificates granted him for the same, is reasonable; to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

The 1st, 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 1st, 4th, 5th and 6th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the claim of Peter Lafargue and Company. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5*s.* per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Tazewell reported, from the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, the resolutions agreed to on Saturday last; and he read the said resolutions in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the several acts of Assembly, for the collection of the permanent revenue of the State, ought to be amended; and the several sheriffs and collectors of taxes, shall pay the revenue for the year 1785, and all future collections into the treasury, on or before the day of November, annually; and in default thereof, judgment shall be moved for against all delinquents, at the court of oyer held in December following, or at any subsequent meeting of the General Court.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That in the present circumstances of the people in this Commonwealth, only half the revenue of the year 1785, ought to be collected, and that they ought to be discharged from the payment of the other half.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That an act ought to pass, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debts contracted by the United States,'" so as to authorise the Congress of the United States to carry the same into effect within this Commonwealth, as soon as twelve States in the Union shall have passed similar acts.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the act passed at the last session of Assembly, "directing the sale of the public property, in the towns of Gosport and Portsmouth," ought to be amended.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time, the following amendment was proposed to be made thereunto: strike out from the word "Commonwealth," to the end of the resolution, and insert "the whole of the revenue tax for the year 1785, ought to be remitted."

And the said amendment being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

And then the said resolution, as amended was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d and last resolutions were then severally read; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that Messrs. Tazewell, Benjamin Harrison, Breckenridge, and Zachariah Johnston, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d and last resolutions; and that Messrs. Ronald, Jones of King George, Grayson, Stuart and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for establishing the town of Kempsville in the county of Princess Anne.’” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth,” with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Page do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for further continuing and amending the act concerning pensioners.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison,” with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

Whereas, the opening and extending the inland navigation of this Commonwealth, will greatly contribute to the interest of individuals, and to the prosperity of the whole State; and a memorial has been presented to the present General Assembly, by sundry inhabitants of this State and of the State of Maryland, representing the particular advantages which would flow from the establishment of a company under the authority of two States, for the purpose of opening and improving the navigation of the river Potomac, from tide water, up the said river, as far as the same can be carried; and praying that an act may be passed by the present General Assembly, for establishing such a company: And whereas, the prayer of the said memorial is deemed reasonable; but it appearing to this House, that acts passed without previous communication between the two States, may be dissimilar and productive of much delay;

Resolved, That George Washington, Horatio Gates and Thomas Blackburne, Esquires, or any two of them be, and they are hereby appointed, forthwith to meet such persons as may be appointed by the State of Maryland, and to concert with them the regulations under which a company ought to be established for the purposes aforesaid; and that they immediately report the result of such conference to the General Assembly.

And whereas, one material advantage to be derived to the two States, from the opening and improving the navigation of the river Potomac as aforesaid, will consist in the progress and facility it will afford towards a commercial intercourse with the western country;

Resolved, That the said commissioners, or any two of them be, and they are hereby authorised and instructed to concert with the persons who may be appointed on the part of Maryland, a plan, for opening a proper road between the waters of the Potomac and the most convenient western waters, together with the just proportions of money which ought to be supplied by the two States for that purpose; and that the said commissioners also report the result of their proceedings herein, to the General Assembly.

Resolved, That these resolutions be transmitted by express to the State of Maryland, by the Executive, with propositions for the time and place of meeting the persons who may be deputed on the part of Maryland.

And the said resolutions being twice read were, on the question severally put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Grayson do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Thomas Gist, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the Journal of the House of Burgesses, allowing the petitioner an annuity of 40*l.* per annum during life, in consideration of his being wounded and made prisoner by the Indians in the year 1763, has been destroyed; and that in consequence thereof, the auditors of public accounts have refused to grant the petitioner a warrant for such annuity.

It further appears to your committee, from a certificate from the treasurer, that the petitioner has, at different times, drawn from the treasury 40*l.* per annum, as an annuity, agreeably to a resolution of Assembly.

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Thomas Gist, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner's annuity of 40*l.* per annum during life, ought to be continued and allowed to him.

Ordered, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Charles Lee, sheriff of the county of Northumberland, praying that the interest and damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court for



the balance of taxes the for year 1783, may be remitted, is reasonable; *Provided*, he pays the balance upon the said judgment on or before the 1st day of February next.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Smith, deputy sheriff of the county of Powhatan, praying that the interest and damages on a judgment obtained against his principal for the balance of taxes for the year 1783, may be remitted, is reasonable; *Provided*, he pays the balance due on the said judgment on or before the 1st day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lientenant Governor, enclosing estimates of the expenses of the public boats Liberty and Patriot; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to amend the several acts concerning marriages;" "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the first and second State regiments;" "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "to amend the act, entitled an act, 'for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property, lost during the war;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 14, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Mr. John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Mr. Michael Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Augusta; and Mr. John Bowyer, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Crittenden, John Taylor, Michael Bowyer and John Bowyer, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Bland Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville;" and the same was received and read the first time; and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Norvell presented, from the committee for Religion, according to order, a bill "for altering the boundary line between the glebe lands of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, and the laud of William Logwood;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Commerce, to whom was referred the report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the loss of the tobacco destroyed by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge, that they receive, examine and report upon such further claims for tobacco so destroyed, as may be presented to them.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inquire of certain warrants on western claims, issued by the auditors of public accounts to Daniel Broadhead, jun.; and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Wells, Mann Page, Carrington and Barbour.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for further continuing and amending the act, for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine;" and "for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Southfarnham, in the county of Essex;" also, to the resolutions, requesting the Executive to have two busts of the Marquis de



la Fayette, made in Paris; and to remit the interest and damages upon a judgment obtained against John Willoughby, late sheriff of Norfolk, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and for appointing commissioners to concert with commissioners from the State of Maryland, measures for extending the navigation of the river Potomac, with an amendment; to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

4 The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the resolution, to remit the interest and damages upon a judgment obtained against John Willoughby, sheriff of Norfolk; and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

4 The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate to the resolution, appointing commissioners to concert with commissioners from the State of Maryland, measures for extending the navigation of the river Potomac; and the same being read, was agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Grayson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the several acts, concerning marriages;" "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments;" "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war," being read;

Ordered, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 15, 1784.

A bill, "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "for altering the boundary line between the glebe lands of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, and the land of William Logwood;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Norfolk, praying that an act may pass for altering the place of holding courts in the said county, and that the same be held at Ferry Point, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Bell, late a lieutenant in the 6th Virginia regiment, praying that he may be allowed the same bounty in lands as is by law given to a lieutenant serving three years, is reasonable.

Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Ordered, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 2d resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the bill "authorising John Mayo to build a toll bridge across James river;" that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

Ordered, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Thomas Marshall, and that the same be referred to a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments."

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to increase the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for opening and extending the navigation of James river;" and that Messrs. Madison, Southall, Carrington, Johnston, Wilson Cary Nicholas and Benjamin Harrison, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill

"for amending the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections ;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Stuart reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "to amend the several acts, 'concerning marriages ;'" after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Russell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for arming the militia of this Commonwealth ;" and that Messrs. Carrington, Page, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Gaskins, and Edmunds of Sussex, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for clearing Roanoke river ;'" and that Messrs. Bibb, and Richard Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for giving certain powers to the corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes ;'" and that Messrs. Matthews and Kearnes, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins, be added to the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year, and of a chief justice for the western district; and for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to explain and amend the act, 'to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors ;'" "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church ;" "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments ;" "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico ;" "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion ;" "to prevent the further operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects ;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,' and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war,' being read ;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 16, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "authorising John Mayo to build a toll bridge across James river ;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, authorising John Mayo to build a toll bridge across James river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for altering the boundary line between the glebe lands of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, and the land of William Logwood ;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to alter the boundary line between the glebe lands of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, and the land of William Logwood."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Norvell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts, 'concerning marriages ;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts, 'concerning marriages."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stuart do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for altering the place of holding courts in the county of Norfolk ;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for paying a sum of money to Edward Curd; and for remitting the interest and damages upon judgments obtained against Charles Lee and John Willoughby. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "authorising John Mayo to build a toll bridge across

James river;" and "for altering the boundary line between the glebe lands of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, and the land of William Logwood." And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to increase the number of trustees in the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same," with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Samuel Bell, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Samuel Bell was appointed a lieutenant to the regiment of infantry commanded by Colonel Grayson, on the 8th day of March 1777, and continued in service in that rank, until the 1st day of April 1779, when he became a supernumerary, by consolidating Thruston's, Gist's, and the said Grayson's regiments; that the said Bell has frequently been in service with the militia of this State, which, with the time he was with the continental army, exceeded the term of three years.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Samuel Bell, praying that he may be allowed the bounty in lands given by law to a lieutenant serving three years, is reasonable.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val.

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for allowing James Ash a bounty in lands. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Heath and Gaskins, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments reported from the committee of the whole House on yesterday, to the bill "for amending the several laws, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," which lay on the table; and the same being again twice read, some were agreed to, and others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, to them referred, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, praying that the town of Walkerton may be discontinued, and the lands reserved for a common re-vested in the heir of John Walker, deceased, who made a donation thereof to the trustees, is reasonable; *Provided,* that the rights of individuals to any lot in the said town, or the public road or ferry, shall not be affected or discontinued thereby.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said county of King and Queen, in opposition thereto, be rejected.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing one from the delegates of this State in Congress; one other from the solicitor, and one from the commissioners appointed to run the boundary line with Pennsylvania; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the assistant judges of the western district; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" and the same was received and read the first time and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petitions of James Gordon and Robert Stuart, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that a judgment was obtained in October last in the General Court, against the said James Gordon, as sheriff of the county of Lancaster, not only for the whole amount of the certificate tax, but also for the balance of the revenue tax, amounting to 778*l.* 13*s.* 10*d.*; that the said Gordon attended at the treasury on the 1st and 20th of April, with certificates to pay that tax, but was desired by one of the clerks to postpone that business, as they were much engaged in receiving the revenue tax, which was of more importance to the public; that both of the deputy sheriffs to the said Gordon were sick for a considerable time, and one of them died during the said



collection; and that the sum of 525*l*. 19*s*. 4*d*. has been paid by the said Gordon since the judgment was obtained against him, which he had received from his deputies before the month of October, but was prevented from paying it into the treasury sooner, by his indisposition.

It appears to your committee, that the said Robert Stuart is a native of this State; that he has resided in the town of Boston, in Massachusetts, from April 1779 to October 1783, except when he went to sea, which he has done several different times during that period, in vessels belonging to citizens of the United States, and particularly in the ship General Pickering, a letter of marque, where he acted as a mariner, and in several engagements with the British, behaved himself bravely.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said James Gordon, praying that the interest and damages on the judgments obtained against him at the last General Court, for the certificate and revenue taxes due for the year 1783, may be remitted him, is reasonable; *Provided*, the principal and costs thereof be paid on or before the 1st day of March next.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Robert Stuart, praying that two negro slaves lately the property of his father, Thomas Stuart, but forfeited to the Commonwealth and purchased by the public, may be restored to him, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, 'for establishing the town of Louisville;'" "to explain and amend the act, 'to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors;'" "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments;" "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, December 17, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to increase the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to increase the number of the trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco at sundry places;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for altering the place for holding courts in the county of Norfolk;" was read the second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the third reading of the said bill, be postponed until the third Monday in October next.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act of Assembly, 'for establishing the town of Walkerton."

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the first reading of the said bill be postponed until the third Monday in October next.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for giving certain powers to the corporation of the city of Richmond, and for other purposes."

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the first reading of the said bill be postponed until the third Monday in October next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Clarke have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until to-morrow.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill

"for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carrington reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

And then the question being put, that the said bill be engrossed and read the third time;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for granting certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from certain commissioners appointed on behalf of the merchants of the city of Glasgow in Great Britain, respecting the instalment of the debts due from the citizens of this Commonwealth to British subjects; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said commissioners be admitted to be heard by their counsel at the bar of this House on Monday next, on the subject matter of the said letter.

A representation was presented to the House by a member in his place, from the merchants and traders in the town of Petersburg, stating the disadvantages to the commerce of this Commonwealth, if any preference be given to British subjects, on the instalment of British debts for the summary recovery and execution thereupon; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said merchants and traders, be admitted to be heard by their counsel at the bar of this House on Monday next, on the subject matter of the said representation.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco at sundry places;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and for the better security of county records;" and the same being read, was amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wells do acquaint the Senate therewith. *adjourns.*

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and to apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor in certain counties;" and that Messrs. Zachariah Johnston and Michael Bowyer, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; and for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville,'" "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, December 18, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Kinchen Godwin, one of the members for the county of Nansemond; attending in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Kinchen Godwin be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Alexander Henderson, one of the members for the county of Fairfax; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms; and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Monday the 6th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said Alexander Henderson be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

An engrossed bill, "for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

And the question being put, that the bill do pass;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 47.

Noes, 30.

*Resolved*, That the title of the said bill be, "an act, for issuing certain certificates to the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholas Cabell, and seconded by Mr. Clendinnen;

*Ordered*, That the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, John Nicholas, Samuel Hawes, Benjamin Harrison, Edward Carrington, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, George Wray, William Gatewood, William Pickett, James Hubbard, James Wall, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmiter, John Seabrook Wills, Benjamin Pope, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, Benjamin Temple, William Dandridge Claiborne, James Ball, jun. Richard Bland Lee, Samuel Goode, Francis Corbin, Robert Sayres, John Breckenridge, Kinchen Godwin, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Lyttleton Eyre, James Madison, William Ronald, Edward Ruffin, Edward Bland, Thomas Walke, William Grayson, John Hayes, Mann Page, Carter Bassett Harrison, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Henry Tazewell and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Parramore, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, John Booker, Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, Michael Bowyer, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Ward, Jacob Morton, French Strother, James Pendleton, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, George Clendinnen, Batte Peterson, William Norvell, Charles Porter, Richard Bibb, John Clarke, John Bowyer, Gawin Hamilton, John Hopkins, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomas Towles, Richard Lee and James Montgomery.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue, and apply the same in payment of the debts due to foreign creditors;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Monday.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for opening and extending the navigation of James river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting John Ligon. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Heath do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for incorporating the members of the Society of Cincinnati;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Vivion Brooking, late sheriff of the county of Amelia, praying that the interest and damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court, for balance of the taxes due in 1782, may be remitted, be rejected.



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Daniel Brown, late surgeon of the 14th Virginia regiment, praying that he may be allowed the same portion of land given by law to surgeons serving three years, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Robert Sayres, praying to be allowed the same portion of land as is by law given to a captain serving three years, is reasonable; it appearing to the committee that the said Sayres served as an officer for the term of three years, in the continental army and militia of this State.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the last resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, be discharged from proceeding on the letter of the commissioners appointed by the Glasgow merchants, respecting the instalment of British debts; as also, on the letter from the merchants and traders of the town of Petersburg, on the same subject;

And that the orders for hearing counsel thereupon, at the bar of the House, on Monday next, be rescinded.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bills to the Senate, for their examination.

Mr. Bibb presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for clearing Roanoke river;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "to enable the British merchants to recover their debts in this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for preventing counterfeits of certain certificates;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the better support of the Supreme Court in the western district;" and that Messrs. Breckenridge, Barbour, Pope, Stuart and Johnston, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Johnston presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill on the resolution, authorising the Executive to concert with the continental commissioner of loans, the necessary precautions against counterfeiting certificates, be discharged therefrom; and that Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, 'for establishing the town of Louisville;'" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;'" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war,'" being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

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## MONDAY, December 20, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for amending the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for amending the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections."

*Ordered,* That Mr. William Watkins do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for opening and extending the navigation of James river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco, at sundry places." And then he withdrew.

A bill, "for incorporating the members of the Cincinnati Society;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the second Thursday in November next.

A bill, "for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to enable the British merchants to recover their debts within this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled an act, 'for clearing Roanoke river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for preventing counterfeits of certain certificates;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Matthews, Madison, Harrison, Corbin, Page and Carrington.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled an act, 'for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor in certain counties;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wall have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; and for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for establishing a board of auditors, and directing the mode of stating public accounts;" "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth, from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" "to amend and explain the act, entitled an act, 'for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville;" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 21, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor in certain counties;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor in certain counties."

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for clearing Roanoke river;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for clearing Roanoke river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bibb do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to authorise the Congress of the United States, to carry into effect within this Commonwealth an act, entitled 'an act, to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debts contracted by the United States, as soon as twelve States in the Union shall pass similar laws;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for granting a bounty of lands to John Bell; for remitting the interest and damages upon a judgment obtained against James Gordon; and for restoring the negroes in the possession of the public to Robert Stuart, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill "for the establishment of Courts of Assize," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the western waters to the head branches of the same, that they may be rendered navigable;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendment of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco at sundry places;" and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the resolution, for restoring two negroes in the possession of the public, to Robert Stuart; and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Breckenridge presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, be discharged from further proceeding on the bill "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville,'" and that the same be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

Mr. Breckenridge reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments made yesterday to the bill "for incorporating the clergy of the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from Col. Edward Carrington, and one other from the solicitor general; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carrington reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to authorise the Congress of the United States, to carry into effect within this Commonwealth, an act, entitled 'an act, to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debts contracted by the United States, as soon as twelve States in the Union shall pass similar laws,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House immediately.

The House, accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

And then the question being put, that the said bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Robert Clarke, and Thomson, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for increasing the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco at sundry places." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "for arming the militia of this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'regulating the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees;' and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property lost during the war,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, December 22, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up; and the question being put that the said bill do pass;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 47.

Noes, 38.

*Resolved*, That the title of the bill be, "an act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and that Mr. Breckenridge do carry it to the Senate and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Henderson, and seconded by Mr. Zachariah Johnston;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Thomas Parramore, Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, Benjamin Harrison, Bernard Markham, Matthew Cheatham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pendleton, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, George Wray, John Marshall, James Hubard, Peter Saunders, John Seabrook Wills, Philip Barbour, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, James Ball, jr. Francis Peyton, William Anderson, Samuel Goode, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, William Armistead, Daniel Sandford, Lyttleton Eyre, John Thornton, James Madison, William Ronald, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Walke, William Grayson, Mann Page, William Brent, Carter Bassett Harrison, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, Nathaniel Nelson and Henry Tazewell.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, Michael Bowyer, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, John Nicholas, Samuel Hawes, Jacob Morton, French Strother, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, Thomas Underwood, George Clendinnen, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmeter, Garland Anderson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Benjamin Pope, Richard Bland Lee, John Glenn, Robert Sayres, John Kearnes, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Dix, Richard Bibb, John Clarke, John Bowyer, Gawin Hamilton, John Hays, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, John Taylor of Southampton, and James Montgomery.

The House being informed that Mr. John Thornton, one of the members for the county of Northumberland, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence, when the House was called over on the 6th instant;

*Ordered*, That the said John Thornton be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Thomas Mann Randolph, one of the members for the county of Goochland; and Mr. Isaac Zane, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Thomas Mann Randolph, and Isaac Zane, be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, allowing a bounty in lands to Robert Sayres; also, they do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "establishing Courts of Assize;" and they have agreed to the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent the future operation of the laws concerning escheats and forfeitures from British subjects;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, respecting future confiscations."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;" was read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

A bill, "for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable, was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Matthews, Madison, Grayson, and Carter Henry Harrison.

A bill, "for arming the militia of this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

A bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'regulating the appointment of naval officers and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Friday next.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding on the bill "to amend the act, for the recovery of slaves, horses and other property, lost during the war."

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by a resolution of the last session of Assembly, the auditors were directed to close their office against the settlement of officers' and soldiers' accounts on the 1st day of January next; and it is represented to this Assembly that many of their accounts still remain unliquidated;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the auditors be empowered to continue the liquidation of the said accounts until the 1st day of May next, upon their being previously certified by the commissioners agreeably to the said resolution, and giving the like public notice of this resolution, as is therein directed.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the case of John Conard, expressed in a petition presented to this Assembly, be referred to the Executive; and that the Governor, with advice of Council, be authorised to cause the same to be settled in such manner as shall seem reasonable; and that warrants shall be drawn for such balance as may be found due, out of the funds appropriated, or which may hereafter be appropriated for the payment of the debts due in like cases, in such proportions and at such times as the Governor, with the advice aforesaid, may direct.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Philip Barbour, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the Journals of the commissioners appointed to adjust and settle the western claims against the public, that there is due to the petitioner, 9,173 dollars, 4 livres and 8 sols, making 2,752*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* for supplies actually furnished by the petitioner for the support of the troops in the western country, in the year 1780.

*Whereupon, resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts ought to issue warrants in favor of the petitioner for the said sum of 2,752*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* and allow him an interest of five per cent. per annum thereon, to be computed from the 12th day of March 1781, till payment, to be paid out of such funds as shall be hereafter established for the payment of debts of a similar kind.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for appointing overseers of the poor, within the several parishes of this Commonwealth;" and that Messrs. Henderson, Zachariah Johnston, Tazewell and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, upon the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year, and of a chief magistrate for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for establishing the board of auditors, and directing the mode of stating the public accounts;" "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" and "to amend the act, 'to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to amend the act, 'for clearing Mattaponi river,'" was committed; that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for opening and extending the navigation of James river," was committed; that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.  
And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 23, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children," was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for clearing Mattaponi river,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for clearing Mattaponi river.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments, and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor in certain counties,'" also, they have agreed to the amendment of this House, to the last amendment of the Senate, to the bill "for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections." And then he withdrew.

A member in his place presented to the House, a representation of the directors of the public buildings, containing their reasons for an alteration in the plan of the said buildings, as directed by the act, "for the removal of the seat of government;" which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for enlarging the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from sundry merchants of the city of Richmond, and of the town of Petersburg; which was read, and ordered to be committed to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable the British merchants to recover their debts within this Commonwealth."

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Claims be discharged from further proceeding on the claim of Philip Barbour against this State; and that the same be referred to the Executive.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Benjamin Harrison have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres on land granted by patent, and for appropriating the money arising therefrom." And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same.



and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year, and of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to enable the British merchants to recover their debts within this Commonwealth;" "to amend the act, for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for establishing the board of auditors, and directing the mode of stating public accounts;" "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" and "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 24, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, 'for establishing the town of Louisville,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to explain and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for repealing in part the act, 'for establishing the town of Louisville.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made; and the question being put, that the third reading of the engrossed bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" be postponed until the fourth Thursday in November next. It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 45.

Noes, 38.

On a motion made by Mr. Breckenridge, and seconded by Mr. Zane;

*Ordered*, That the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Edward Carter, Samuel Sherwin, Nicholas Cabell, Michael Bowyer, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, John Nicholas, Samuel Hawes, Jacob Morton, French Strother, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, William Pickett, George Clendinnen, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanniter, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Benjamin Pope, Francis Peyton, John Glenn, Robert Sayres, John Breckenridge, John Kearnes, James Madison, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, William Ronald, John Bowyer, John Hayes, Gawin Hamilton, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, John Taylor of Southampton, Thomas Towles, Mann Page, William Brent, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, James Montgomery and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, Thomas Parramore, Benjamin Harrison, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, James Pendleton, William Watkins, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, George Wray, Alexander Henderson, John Marshall, Thomas Smith, James Hubbard, Garland Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, John S. Wills, Philip Barbour, Joseph Jones of King George, William Thornton, James Ball, Richard Bland Lee, William Anderson, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, Daniel Sandford, Lytleton Eyre, John Thornton, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, Thomas Walke, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Allen, Richard Lee, Nathaniel Nelson and Henry Tazewell.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the engrossed bill, "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion," together with the names of the ayes and noes, on the question to postponing the third reading of the said bill to the fourth Thursday in November next, be published in hand-bills, and twelve copies thereof delivered to each member of the General Assembly, to be distributed in their respective counties; and that the people thereof be requested to signify their opinion respecting the adoption of such a bill, to the next session of Assembly.

An engrossed bill, "for arming the militia of this Commonwealth;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for providing arms and ammunition for the defence of the State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for opening and extending the navigation of James river;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for opening and extending the navigation of James river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, for clearing Mattaponi river;" also, to

the resolutions, for referring John Conan's claim to the Executive; to continue the liquidation of officers' and soldiers' accounts; and authorising the Executive to concert with the commissioners of the Loan Office, the necessary precautions against counterfeits of certain certificates; also, they do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for increasing the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also, they have agreed to the bill "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "for increasing the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election," and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments, and agree to the said amendments, with an amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable the British merchants to recover their debts within this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to regulate the solemnization of marriages;" and that Mr. Mann Page do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, regulating the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" "to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" and, "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, December 25, 1784.

The House met according to their adjournment;

But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 27, 1784.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear, were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Wilson Cary Nicholas and Edward Carter, members for the county of Albemarle; John Booker, one of the members for the county of Amelia;

Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; George Hancock, one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Thomas Edmunds and Thomas Claiborne, members for the county of Brunswick; John Nicholas and Charles Pateson, members for the county of Buckingham; John Ward, one of the members for the county of Campbell; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Miles King, one of the members for the county of Elizabeth City; Thomas West, one of the members for the county of Fairfax; John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Thomas Mann Randolph, one of the members for the county of Goochland; Batte Peterson, one of the members for the county of Greenville; Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Isaac Vanniter, one of the members for the county of Hampshire; William Norvell and William Walker, members for the county of James City; Philip Barbour, one of the members for the county of Jefferson; Edmund Byne and Larkin Smith, members for the county of King and Queen; Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of King George; William Dandridge Claiborne, one of the members for the county of King William; William White, one of the members for the county of Louisa; Anthony Street, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; John Logan and George Slaughter, members for the county of Lincoln; William Randolph, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Francis Corbin, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; Benjamin Wilson, one of the members for the county of Montgomery; Francis Worman, one of the members for the county of Monongalia; William Arnistead and John Watkins, members for the county of New Kent; Bennett Tompkins, one of the members for the county of Northampton; Ebenezer Zane and David Shepherd, members for the county of Ohio; William Mayo, one of the members for the county of Powhatan; John Clarke, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; Edward Bland, one of the members for the county of Prince George; John Ackiss, one of the members for the county of Norfolk; Alexander Scott Bullitt, one of the members for the county of Prince William; John Faunderoy and Landon Carter, members for the county of Richmond; Abraham Keller, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Albrington Jones, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Mann Page, one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania; Bailey Washington, one of the members for the county of Stafford; John Allen, one of the members for the county of Surry; Wilson Miles Cary and John Langhorne, members for the county of Warwick; Henry Lee, jun. and Richard Lee, members for the county of Westmoreland; James Montgomery, one of the members for the county of Washington; and Joseph Prentis, one of the members for the county of York.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, be authorised to send special messengers to take into his custody the bodies of the absent members wherever to be found, and the Speaker is desired in his discretion, to issue warrants accordingly.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 28, 1784.

The House being informed that Mr. Edward Bland, one of the members for the county of Prince George, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Edward Bland be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over yesterday;

*Ordered*, That the said Joseph Jones be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

The House being informed that Mr. Wilson Cary Nicholas, one of the members for the county of Albemarle; Mr. Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Mr. Francis Corbin, one of the members for the county of Middlesex; and Mr. Mann Page, one of the members for the county of Spottsylvania, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said Wilson Cary Nicholas, Isaac Coles, Francis Corbin and Mann Page be admitted to their seats, on paying fees.

Mr. Mann Page presented, according to order, a bill "to regulate the solemnization of marriages;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Stuart reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for equalizing the land tax," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for preventing counterfeits of certain certificates,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his



place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments made by the Senate, to the bill "for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, for repeal<sup>X</sup> ing in part the act, 'for establishing the town of Louisville;' and "respecting future confiscations," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendment; and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee appointed to examine into the state of the public accounts, and prepare a general statement of the public debt, together with a statement of the revenues of the Commonwealth, as also to consider of the proper funds for payment of debts, for which no provision hath yet been made, that the committee had, according to order, proceeded on the said business, and from the best materials and information they had been able to collect, had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

Your committee find, that the gross amount of the taxes arising under the revenue law, on lands and lots, slaves, free male titheables and taxable property, is 272,381*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.*; and the commission allowed the collectors of the said taxes, and the commissioners of the land tax, to be deducted from the gross amount of the taxes, is 4,903*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* which leaves a nett revenue of 257,478*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.*; but there being considerable deficiencies on account of insolvencies, which appears to your committee ought to be computed at 100*l.* average in each county; and there being some remote counties which have paid but little into the treasury, and which, in the opinion of your committee, can hardly be expected to pay the full amount of their arrearages in any short period, your committee are of opinion, the amount of the revenue to be carried into the public treasury, in money, from the taxes aforesaid, cannot be estimated at more than the sum of 242,678*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* as will appear from the following statement, viz:

Gross amount of taxes,	-	-	-	£ 272,381 18 9
Deduct for commissions to collectors, &c.	-	-	-	£ 14,903 7 5
Insolvents at 100 <i>l.</i> each county,	-	-	-	7,400 0 0
Deficiencies estimated at 100 <i>l.</i> each county,	-	-	-	7,400 0 0
				<hr/> 29,703 7 5
				<hr/> £ 242,678 11 4

Your committee are of opinion, that the above sum is the most that can ever be counted upon to arise from the revenue law, provided the whole revenue is collected in money; but when specifics are received in lieu of money, your committee cannot form any estimate of the sum that may be ultimately brought into the public treasury, and can only report, that in those years, when produce has been received in lieu of money, in payment of taxes, the sum brought into the public treasury has been considerably short of the foregoing statement.

Your committee having examined the amount of the several debts and expenses of government, for the payment of which the said revenue is appropriated, find the public faith pledged to pay therefrom the following sums annually, viz:

The amount of the land tax in the borough of Norfolk, to pay for the public buildings destroyed by order of Convention,	-	-	-	£ 555 3 5
One-tenth of the tax arising from lands and lots, to redeem this State's proportion of money issued agreeably to the recommendations of Congress of the 18th of March 1780,	-	-	-	8,585 0 5
Interest at six per centum per annum, on 5,869 <i>l.</i> 11 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> the amount of paper money of this State funded, at the rate of 1,000 <i>l.</i> paper money, for 1 <i>l.</i> specie,	-	-	-	352 3 6
To be paid to the United States, as this State's quota of the interest on the debts due by the United States,	-	-	-	120,000 0 0

The amount of certificates granted to the officers and soldiers on continental and State establishments, and to the navy of this State, for arrears of pay and depreciation, prior to the 1st of October 1784, 745,567*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* carrying an annual interest at the rate of 6 per cent. The act for redeeming those certificates directs, that the interest shall be paid annually from the time of the passing of the act, and one-eighth of the principal annually; the first payment of such principal to commence on the 1st of January 1785; but there being other provisions made to pay part of the said debt, besides the above taxes, we only charge the permanent revenue, with the interest of the above sum, which amounts annually to

One-tenth of the revenue arising from free male titheables and taxable property, is appropriated to the support of military pensioners; we are of opinion one-tenth will yield, per annum,	-	-	-	£ 44,731 1 4
				6,000 0 0

One-tenth of the aforesaid revenue is assigned for defraying the contingent charges of government, and one-tenth to pay debts due on the military fund; we find that 1782, 1783, and part of 1784, the warrants drawn on those funds, amount to 40,042*l.* 19*s.* 6 1-2*d.* which on an average each year, is about - - - 15,000 0 0  
Salaries to the officers of civil government, including the members of Assembly and delegates to Congress, - - - - - 29,828 0 0

Your committee find from the above statement, that the revenues of the Commonwealth arising from the aforesaid taxes, exceed the amount of the several sums charged thereon 16,627*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*; but two-tenths of the taxes arising from free male tithables and taxable property, being considered as unappropriated, and subject to be disposed of by votes of the General Assembly, as the public exigencies may require; and the aforesaid two-tenths having been heretofore voted for the payment of debts due by the State, to persons whose claims appeared entitled to a preference over the general mass of public creditors, your committee are of opinion that no greater sum than 16,627*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* annually, can be voted by the General Assembly of the revenues aforesaid, without an infringement of the appropriations heretofore made: *And provided*, the said revenues are collected annually, at the time by law prescribed, your committee are of opinion the aforesaid sum may, in each year, be disposed of by the General Assembly, without prejudice to the several appropriations; *Provided, also*, that the duties on merchandize appropriated for the redemption of military certificates shall be applied to that purpose, and prove adequate to the payment of such proportion thereof, as is directed to be paid by the act, "for providing certain and adequate funds for the redemption of the said certificates;" but your committee find themselves obliged to report that, from various postponements in the collection of the revenue, and from deficiencies in collection and loss on specifics, instead of 120,000*l.* being paid annually, as this State's quota of interest on the continental debt, only 123,573*l.* 10*s.* hath been paid in 1782, 1783 and 1784, by which it appears that this State, in the three years before mentioned, hath fallen short of paying her quota of interest on the continental debt, the sum of 136,427*l.* 10*s.*; but your committee find, that Congress having transmitted to this State a statement of the national debt, dated the 17th of April 1784, and having taken into consideration the exhausted situation of the several States in the Union, and being of opinion, that in the present circumstances of many of them, a full payment of their quota could not be expected; they have at the same time made a requisition on the several States of those sums which they represent as indispensably necessary to support the Federal Administration, under the pressure of demands which will admit neither of denial or delay, and fix the proportion required from this State at 538,993 dollars, to be paid within the course of the year 1784; and your committee find, a resolution of the General Assembly, passed last session, pledging this State for the payment thereof, to which resolution your committee beg leave to refer. Your committee find, that of the above sum, 268,493 dollars hath been paid, and that there yet remains to be paid the sum of 270,200 dollars to complete the said requisition, all, or the greater part of which can only be made good from the collection of one per cent. on lands now distrained for, and from the revenue which becomes distrainable for, in January 1785; in which case, there will be a deficiency in the year 1785 of the aforesaid amount of 270,200 dollars, if the collection of the whole revenue of that year shall be postponed.

Your committee also report, that the arrears of military pensions for the year 1784, amounts to	-	-	-	-	£	12,289	4	5
The amount drawn on the contingent and military funds unpaid,	-	-	-	-		9,260	12	7 1-2
						21,549	17	0 1-2
Which, added to the above 270,200 dollars,						81,060	0	0
						102,609	17	0 1-2

From this statement, your committee are of opinion, that after the revenue for 1784 shall be collected, there will be a deficiency of 102,609*l.* 17*s.* 1-2*d.* besides about half a year's expenses of civil government, and the expenses of criminal prosecutions, which occasion a considerable anticipation of revenue, the warrants to venire men being by law receivable in payment of taxes. Your committee are therefore of opinion, that the sum of 120,000*l.* at least, ought to be collected in 1785, besides the revenue which became due in 1784, and hath been postponed. Your committee having thus stated the amount of the public debts, for the payment of which ample funds appear to be provided, if the collection of the taxes shall be enforced, find it a part of their duty to report the amount of certain debts, the payment of which seems to be much pressed, and for which little provision hath yet been made; amongst them, we find a debt due to certain meritorious individuals, who lent money and tobacco to the public, on the pressing requisitions of the General Assembly, and of the Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, when the credit of the State was lost with every other person. The sums, though not large, were supplied at a very critical time, and the public faith solemnly pledged for a speedy reimbursement; no part of principal or interest hath yet been

paid. The amount of money received under those requisitions, with interest thereon, to the 1st of October 1784, is of the value of	-	-	£ 6,516	7	9	1-2
And the quantity of tobacco, with interest thereon to the same date, amounts to 267,267 lbs. nett, which, on an average value at 30s. per 100, amounts to	-	-	4,009	0	0	
			10,525	7	9	1-2

Your committee, considering this debt as one of the first dignity, are of opinion, that so much of the unappropriated two-tenths, as will make the same good in three equal annual payments, ought to be applied to that purpose; and that warrants should be annually granted for such proportion, and made receivable in any specie tax. Your committee further do report, that considerable sums of money were at different times lent the State under the several acts of Assembly, "authorising the treasurer to borrow money at an interest of six per centum, redeemable at certain periods;" and considerable sums are still due for such loans; the destruction of some of the public books and papers has deprived your committee of an opportunity of ascertaining the sum with precision; we are however, of opinion, it will considerably exceed 100,000*l.*; we find the amount of such loans registered in the auditor's office, reduced agreeably to the table of depreciation, to be 33,488*l.* 11*s.* 1-2*d.*, and the interest due thereon to the 1st of October 1784, 11,062*l.* 9*s.* 3 1-2*d.* amounting, principal and interest, to 44,551*l.* 0*s.* 4 1-2*d.* Your committee are of opinion, that new certificates ought to be issued to those persons who held the above registered certificates, including the principal and interest thereon to the 1st of January 1785; and that so much of the unappropriated two-tenths of revenue as will pay the annual interest, becoming due thereon, ought to be applied to that purpose; and that warrants granted for such interest, shall be receivable in payment of any specie tax. And as soon as the remaining Loan Office certificates shall be registered, it is the opinion of your committee, that provision ought, in like manner, to be made for the payment of the interest thereon.

The next liquidated debt which your committee have proceeded to examine, is due on the books of the late commercial agent. Sundry payments have been made since their books were balanced, and from the best information your committee can now procure, the balances due thereon from the State, amount to 29,347 lbs. of flour, and 1,167,182 lbs. of tobacco, and about 27,000*l.* specie. In this account are included some considerable debts due to foreigners, which, in the opinion of the committee, ought to be transferred from the commercial agent's books, to a particular account, to be raised under the direction of the Executive by the solicitor general, or some other officer employed in stating the public accounts, that all the foreign debts may appear at one view. Your committee are also of opinion, that the books in the auditor's and treasury office, ought to be examined by the solicitor, or some other officer, under the direction of the Executive, for an accurate statement of the payments made, or warrants drawn in favor of any of the creditors on the books of the commercial agent, since the books were balanced and new balances struck, calculating the interest due thereon. The only fund at present assigned for the payment of this heavy debt, arises from some arrearages of taxes of 1782, appropriated by law for that purpose, which being very inadequate, ought, in the opinion of your committee, to be aided by part of the arrearages of taxes of 1783.

Your committee find, that a considerable proportion of the above debt is due to the late agent, Mr. David Ross, for advances made by him, to pay for arms and clothing for the army, when the public treasury was exhausted and the public credit very low; and are of opinion that immediate provision ought to be made for paying him a considerable part of this debt; and that the balance of the money, which may be assigned in aid of this fund, shall, after making the payment which may be directed to Mr. Ross, be apportioned amongst the other creditors, as the Executive may think proper.

Your committee also report, that considerable debts are still due for merchandize, not included in the above balances; and the books, where such accounts were kept, being either lost or destroyed, your committee cannot with precision determine the amount; the greatest part of those debts are, in the opinion of your committee, and ought, when liquidated, to be transferred to the account of foreign debts.

Your committee having examined the Journals of your House, find that from the session of May 1782, to the session of May 1784, various claims have been established in favor of sundry public creditors, amounting to 74,998*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* Some of these claims have been transferred to particular funds, and others remain unprovided for. Part of those debts appear to be militia claims, or debts due for property impressed for public service; and others, to a considerable amount, appear to be due to foreigners. Your committee are of opinion, that those liquidated debts ought to be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose in the office of the solicitor or some other public officer, who ought to be directed to state the same under the direction of the Executive; and the books of the council, and the auditor's office and treasury, ought to be examined, to discover what warrants have been drawn, or payments made, on account of those debts. and that such of the foreign debts included therein as may yet remain due, shall be transferred to that particular account.

Your committee have found every inclination to pay attention to the state of the debts due by this Commonwealth to foreign creditors; but from the disputed claims of some foreigners, and from the loss of the public books and papers, your committee cannot form any estimate of their amount, farther than being in their opinion very considerable; and the distress in which many of those foreigners are now involved, on account of the advances they have made to this State, calls for every exertion on the part of this Commonwealth, to give them the most speedy relief. Your committee are of opinion, that the Governor, with advice of Council, ought to have full power to settle all those claims in any



manner they think will conduce to do justice to the State, and to those creditors; and that the sums which may be by this House assigned for the payment of those debts, shall be applied under the direction of the Executive, to the payment of such of those claims, and in such proportions as the Governor, with advice of Council, may think proper. Your committee are of opinion, that the two and a half per cent. on imports, and the tax on legal process and alienations, and the money which may arise from the sale of the Gosport lands, ought to be applied to this purpose; and that in aid of those funds, 10,000*l.* shall be added of the arrearages of 1783.

Your committee are of opinion, that 100,000 dollars may, in the course of the year 1785, be paid from those funds to foreign creditors; and that warrants ought to be issued for the same, which shall be receivable at the treasury in discharge of any specie tax for 1784, or any future tax, and shall also be receivable in payment for the Gosport lands. Your committee, on examining the report made by the commissioners appointed to settle the debts due by the State to sundry persons in the western country, find, that the sum of 68,299*l.* 1*7s.* 2 3-4*d.* has been admitted by the commissioners to be due to sundry persons, independent of debts due for militia service; some of those debts have been paid, and others transferred to particular funds. Your committee are of opinion that the Governor, with advice of Council, ought to have full powers to re-settle and adjust all those demands, and to transfer such of them as they may think proper, to the account of the foreign debts, and to direct warrants to issue in favor of this class of creditors, as they may think entitled to the same, for the interest of their respective claims, to be paid out of the tax arising from 5*s.* per hundred acres to be paid on lands when patented.

Your committee do farther report, that several debts are due for slaves executed by legal sentence, for the payment of which the public is liable; and are of opinion, that the interest on those debts at the rate of five per centum per annum, ought to be paid out of the contingent fund, and that warrants issue for the same, which shall be receivable in payment of any specie tax.

Your committee farther report, that very large sums are due by the State to sundry persons for militia service, and for property taken or impressed for public service; the books which contain all certificates to these creditors of the public, are not added up; and your committee could not devote as much time as would have been necessary to make such addition; the debt however, is very great: we presume it may amount to 750,000*l.*; the tax imposed for the redemption of these certificates, will bring about 160,000*l.* into the public treasury, in money or certificates; and all the money which may be paid on this account, is directed by law to be reserved in the treasury for the redemption of those certificates.

The duties on salt, rum, wine and sundry other merchandizes, form a considerable branch of revenue, and together with 4*s.* per hogshead on tobacco exported, are appropriated to pay the interest and one-eighth of the principal of military certificates; these duties, and the slave tax, will not, in the opinion of your committee, make good such proportion of the military debt. And your committee find, that from various postponements and deficiencies in the collection of taxes, there is but little prospect of paying more than the interest the ensuing year, and recommend that the treasurer be directed to pay all the warrants issued for the interest, before any payment be made of any part of the principal of such debt.

Your committee, for the more particular information of the House, have stated the various debts due by the public, in a book, to which your committee beg leave to refer, from page 1 to page 94; and have subjoined the following general account of public debts.

THE STATE OF VIRGINIA, TO SUNDRIES.				Dr.			
<i>Principal.</i>				<i>Interest.</i>			
To the United States, this State's proportion of the continental debt of forty-two millions of dollars.							
Virginia pays one-sixth, amounting to,	£2,100,000	0	0	For the payment of interest thereon, 120,000 <i>l.</i> is appropriated annually,	£120,000	0	0
Amount of certificates issued to the army and navy of this State	745,567	16	2	Interest thereon, at six per cent. per annum,	44,731	1	4
Amount of old Loan Office debt agreeably to register in the auditor's office,	33,488	11	0 1-2	Interest due thereon to the 1st of October, 1784,	11,062	9	3
The annual interest on the above registered debt and interest included, amounting to 44,551 <i>l.</i> 0 <i>s.</i> 4 3-4 <i>d.</i>					2,673	1	2
Amount carried forward,	£2,879,056	7	2 1-2	Amount carried forward,	£178,466	11	9

Amount brought forward,	£2,879,056	7	2	1-2	Amount brought forward,	£178,466	11	9
Loan Office debt not registered, estimated at	120,000	0	0		Annual interest at six per centum,	7,200	0	0
Value of money and tobacco borrowed under requisitions of the Assembly and Governor,	10,515	7	9		Annual interest thereon,	630	17	5
Money of this State funded at 1000 dollars for one,	5,859	1	2		Annual interest thereon,	352	2	6
Balance of money funded agreeably to recommendations of Congress, of the 18th March, 1780, 154,571 dollars,	46,371	6	0		One-tenth of the land tax applied annually to the payment of the above, amounts to.	9,585	0	5
Debts due on the books of the late commercial agent, viz: 29,347 lbs. of flour estimated at 15s per hundred,	£220	2	1					
1,167,182 lbs. of tobacco, valued at 29s.	16,340	10	10					
Cash due	27,000	00	00					
	43,560	12	11		Interest thereon at six per cent. per annum,	2,613	12	7 1-2
Amount of debts due sundry persons, agreeably to votes of the General Assembly, from the session of May 1782, to May 1784, inclusive,	74,998	14	9		Interest thereon at six per centum	4,499	18	7
Amount of western claims exclusive of militia, settled by the commissioners,	68,299	17	2 1-2		Interest thereon,	3,414	19	10 1-2
To make up arrearages of pension list,	12,289	4	5					
To pay off the balance of the contingent and military funds now unpaid,	9,260	12	7 1-2					
	£3,281,283	13	3 1-2					
Unliquidated debt to foreign creditors, and the commutation to the State line, and to persons whose slaves were executed, and sundry other claims, estimated at	200,000	0	0		Annual interest thereon,	12,000	0	0
Debt for property impressed and militia services, not carrying interest, estimated at	750,000	0	0					
Total debt amounting to	£4,231,283	13	3 1-2		Carrying an annual interest of	£207,700	13	11

Besides the above, there is a considerable debt due by the public, for money paid under the sequestration law; also, a great proportion of the old continental money, in opinion of your committee fifteen millions of dollars.

The annual interest of the above debts, - - - -	£207,700	13	11
The annual pension list, - - - -	3,209	15	0
Expenses of civil government, - - - -	29,828	0	0
Contingencies, estimated at 15,000 <i>l.</i> per annum, - - - -	15,000	0	0
Debt to Norfolk borough annually, - - - -	555	3	5
The annual interest of the public debts and expenses of civil government amounts, by this statement to - - - -	256,293	12	4 1-2
Besides the above sum, provision ought to be made, in opinion of your committee, in the year 1785, for the following sums:			
Balance of contingent requisition for 1784, - - - -	81,060	0	0
For the payment of one-third part of the value of money and tobacco lent under requisitions of the Assembly and Governor, - - - -	3,541	15	11
In aid of the funds for payment of the debts due on books of commercial agent, - - - -	10,000	0	0
To pay part of the debts due foreign creditors, - - - -	30,000	0	0
Interest on Loan Office debt, - - - -	2,673	1	2
To pay the arrearages on pensions, - - - -	12,289	4	5
To pay the balance of warrants drawn on contingent and military funds, - - - -	9,260	12	7
To pay sundry votes of the present Assembly, estimated at - - - -	6,000	0	0
To pay arms for the militia, - - - -	10,000	0	0
Expenses for criminal prosecutions, estimated at - - - -	6,000	0	0
Allowance for sundry small debts to be provided for, - - - -	8,000	0	0
	£435,118	6	8 1-2

Besides this sum, one-eighth of the military debt becomes payable on the 1st Jan. 1785:

The funds for the payment of the above, arise from the revenue of 1784, valued at	£242,678	11	4
The tax on legal process and alienations, and the money to arise from the sale of the Gosport lands, and 2 1-2 per cent. duty on imports, estimated at - - - -	30,000	0	0
Arrearages of 1783, after paying the interest due on certificates, and the warrants to officers of civil government, estimated at - - - -	20,000	0	0
	£292,678	11	4
Deficiency to be made good from revenue of 1785, - - - -	141,389	15	1 1-4
	£434,068	6	5 1-2

From the above statement it appears to your committee, that provided the funds for the payment of foreign creditors shall produce 30,000*l.* there will be a deficiency of 141,389*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.* to make good the payments before stated, in the year 1785.

Whereupon, your committee have come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the laws of appropriation ought to be amended in such manner, as not to injure any of the public creditors, for the payment of whose debts provision hath heretofore been made.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That provision ought to be made for paying the money and tobacco lent the public, under the requisitions of the Assembly and of the Governor of this Commonwealth; and that such payment be made out of the unappropriated two-tenths of revenue, and that warrants issue, annually, for one-third part of the said debt; and such warrants shall be receivable in payment of any specie tax.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That provision ought to be made in like manner, for paying the annual interest arising on the Loan Office debt, which hath been registered in the auditor's office.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That full powers ought to be given to the Governor, to settle, with the advice of the Council, all doubts or disputes which may arise in liquidating the debts due to foreign creditors and the creditors of this State in the western country, in such manner, as may to him, with the advice aforesaid, seem best and most reasonable; and finally, to cause all such accounts to be adjusted, and to direct certificates to be granted for the balances due thereon, and to appropriate the funds provided, or to be hereafter provided for those purposes, in such manner as shall seem reasonable; and that warrants for such provision shall be issued agreeably thereto.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That funds ought to be established for paying the debts due to foreign creditors; and that the money arising from two and an half per cent. on merchandize imported, and from the tax on legal process, and from the sale of the Gosport lands, ought to be applied for that purpose; and that 10,000*l.* in aid of these funds, shall be applied out of the money arising from the arrearages of taxes of 1783; and that warrants for 30,000*l.* issue on those funds, which shall be receivable in payment of any specie tax for 1804, or any future tax; and shall be receivable also in payment for the Gosport lands.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor, with advice of his Council, direct any



of the public officers employed to keep or state public accounts whom they may think proper, to examine the books in which the commercial agent's accounts have been stated; and also the books of the commissioners directed to settle accounts in the western country; and make report thereof, in such manner as they may direct; and that the Executive, thereupon, have full power and authority to transfer such of the debts due on those books, as they may be of opinion ought to be considered as foreign debts, to the account of foreign debts, that all the debts due by this State may appear at one view.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the sum of 10,000*l.* arising from the arrearages of 1783, ought to be applied in aid of the funds heretofore provided, for payment of the debts due on the books of the commercial agent; and that *pounds thereof, ought to be paid to the late agent, Mr. David Ross,* in part of his debts due on the said books; and the balance thereof apportioned by the Governor amongst the other creditors, in such manner as he, with the advice of Council, may direct.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That immediate provision ought to be made for paying all arrearages to military pensioners; and that the same be made good out of the revenue of 1784; and that all warrants which have been drawn on the contingent and military funds, ought to be paid in the course of the year 1804; and that provision for the future support of the military fund ought to be withdrawn, and all public expenses which may arise (not otherwise provided for,) shall be charged on the contingent fund.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That interest ought to be paid on the debts due by the public for slaves which have been executed according to law, and the warrants granted for such interest ought to be made receivable in payment of any specie tax for 1784, or any future tax.

The said resolutions were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that Messrs. Ronald, Madison, Matthews and Tazewell, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have receded from their amendments, disagreed to by this House to the bill “for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;” also, they do agree to the amendment of this House to their amendments to the bill “to increase the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, and for their annual election.” And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill “appropriating the additional impost of one and an half per centum,” be discharged from further proceeding thereon.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved,* That the commissioners, or any two of them, appointed on the 28th day of June last, to concert with commissioners on the part of Maryland, regulations touching the navigation and jurisdiction of the Potomac, be further authorised to unite with the said commissioners in representing to the State of Pennsylvania, that it is in contemplation of the said two States to promote the clearing and extending the navigation of the Potomac, from tide water upwards, as far as the same may be found practicable; to open a convenient road from the head of such navigation, to the waters running into the Ohio; and to render the waters navigable as far as may be necessary and proper; that the said works will require great expense, which may not be repaid unless a free use be secured to the said States and their citizens, of the waters of the Ohio and its branches, so far as the same lie within the limits of Pennsylvania; that as essential advantages will accrue from such works, to a considerable portion of the said State, it is thought reasonable, that the Legislature thereof should, by some previous act, engage that, for the encouragement of the said works, all articles of produce and merchandize which may be conveyed to or from either of the said two States, through either of the said rivers within the limits of Pennsylvania, to or from any place without the said limits, shall pass throughout, free from all duties or tolls whatsoever other than such tolls as may be established and be necessary for reimbursing expenses incurred by the State or its citizens, in clearing, or for defraying the expense of preserving the navigation of the said rivers; and that no articles imported into the State of Pennsylvania through the channel or channels, or any part thereof to be opened as aforesaid and vended or used within the said State, shall be subject to any duties or imposts, other than such articles would be subject to if imported into the said State through any other channel whatsoever; and it is further

*Resolved,* That in case a joint representation in behalf of this State and of Maryland, shall be rendered by circumstances unattainable, the said commissioners, or any two of them, may of themselves make such representations on the subject to the State of Pennsylvania, as will in such event become proper; and that in either event, they report their proceedings to the next General Assembly.

*Resolved,* That a copy of the above resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the Executive, to the State of Maryland.

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Madison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That the treasurer be allowed *per cent.* for his additional trouble in disposing of the commutable articles at the treasury, by virtue of the revenue laws, for so much thereof as were sold by him.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to confer with directors of the public buildings, respecting the plan of erecting the same; and that they report thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Towles, Madison, Zane and Carrington.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the several orders of the day of Friday last, which were continued until next day, and then expired for want of a sufficient number of members to proceed to business, be severally received as the orders of this day.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendments of this House, to their amendments to the bill “for vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children.”

Also, they do insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill “respecting future confiscations.” And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Breckenridge reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made some amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Elzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;’” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, “to regulate the solemnization of marriages;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Page and Breckenridge.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, ‘for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;’” “to amend the act, for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;” “to amend the several acts of Assembly, for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;” “to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;” and “to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, ‘for the inspection of tobacco, into one act,’” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 29, 1784.

An engrossed bill, “to amend the act, ‘for equalizing the land tax,’” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to amend the act, ‘for equalizing the land tax.’”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stuart do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, ‘for preventing counterfeits of certain certificates;’” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to prevent the counterfeiting of certain certificates and warrants.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;’” was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read third time.

A bill, “concerning the appointment of sheriffs;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee to whom the bill “to regulate the solemnization of marriages,” was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee to whom the bill “for taking the survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable,” was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several







Dr.					Cr.
Amount brought forward,	£246,591	2	2	Amount brought forward,	£240,006 4 0 1-2
Amount received from inspectors of Tobacco, viz :					
For tax by virtue of 1st revenue law,	£1,546	17	8 1-2	Amount of militia certificates, warrants for supplies furnished the army, &c. and soldier's tobacco notes, admitted in discount of the certificate tax, for the year 1783, as appears by the receipts and corresponding vouchers produced and examined,	146,681 1 11 1-2
For surplus of tax on rents, &c.	8,654	4	8		
For tax for redemption of army debt,	6,238	12	1 1-2		
Amount received on account of Land Office right money,	2,282	13	4	Balance carried to new account,	22,542 9 1 1-2
Amount received from register for tax on grants,		79	0 0		
Amount received from clerks for tax on law process,		131	13 3 1-2		
Amount received for revenue taxes 1784,		2,028	10 5		
Amount received for certificate tax 1783,		146,681	1 11 1-2		
	£409,229	15	1 3-4		£409,229 15 1 3-4

*Errors Excepted.*

J. AMBLER, *Treasurer.*

And the said report being again read at the clerk's table;

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the treasurer's accounts do pass.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Pendleton do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by a resolution passed in May session 1784, in consequence of a petition from Andrew Donnelly late sheriff of Greenbrier, praying that the time of payment of the taxes of the said county, due from him to the Commonwealth might be postponed; and also, that paper money passed under the resolution of Congress of the 18th of March 1780, to the amount of one-tenth part of the land tax, should be received: and whereas, doubts have arisen, whether the aforesaid money according to the letter of the resolution, can be paid in discharge of the said tax;

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be authorised and required to receive one-tenth part of the land tax of the county of Greenbrier for the year 1782, in paper money issued agreeable to the aforesaid resolution of Congress.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stuart do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Breckenridge reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to yesterday, to the bill "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "concerning the paper money paid into the treasury by British debtors;" and that Messrs. Tazewell and Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth, from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Isaac Zane be added to the committee for Courts of Justice.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" "to amend the act, for the better support of the Supreme Court in Kentucky

district;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" and "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY, December 30, 1784.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting the land tax of the county of Greenbrier; also, they do adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "respecting future confiscations;" they have also agreed to the bills "for providing arms and ammunition for the defence of this State;" "to prevent the counterfeiting of certain certificates and warrants;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for clearing Roanoke river," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; "to amend the act, for equalizing the land tax," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and setting the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters, to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Kearnes do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to regulate the solemnization of marriages;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to regulate the solemnization of marriages."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "discharging the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of the revenue tax for the year 1785;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of ryder, to authorise the counties westward of the Blue Ridge, except the counties of Frederick and Berkeley, to discharge the arrears of taxes for the years 1782 and 1783, in hemp, at the rate of 30s. per hundred; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House to be added to the said bill by way of ryder.

Ayes, 51.

Noes, 29.

On a motion made by Mr. Tazewell, and seconded by Mr. Smith;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Michael Bowyer, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, Samuel Haves, Benjamin Harrison, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, French Strother, James Pendleton, Joseph Jones of Dinwiddie, Miles King, George Wray, Spencer Roane, William Gatewood, Alexander Henderson, William Pickett, John Marshall, George Clendinnen, Ralph Humphreys, Garland Anderson, Bartlett Anderson, Turner Southall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, Richard Bland Lee, William Anderson, John Glenn, Samuel Goode, William Curtis, Robert Sayres, John Breckenridge, John Kearnes, Daniel Sandford, Littleton Eyre, James Madison, William Mayo, William Ronald, William Grayson, John Bowyer, Gawin Hamilton, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, Thomas Towles, Mann Page, William Brent, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, Nathaniel Nelson and Thomas Matthews.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, jun. Samuel Sherwin, John Booker, jun. Nicholas Cabell, William Meredith, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, John Ward, Jacob Morton, Matthew Cheat-

ham, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, Peter Saunders, Benjamin Pope, William Thornton, Benjamin Temple, Francis Peyton, Francis Corbin, Willis Riddick, Kinchen Godwin, William Armistead, John Thornton, William Dix, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, Edward Bland, Thomas Walke, James Montgomery and Henry Tazewell.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of one half of the revenue tax for the year 1785."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "to amend and reduce the several laws, 'for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "directing the liquidation of certain public accounts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for clearing Roanoke river;" and the same being read, was amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Goode do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, for equalizing the land tax;" and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stuart do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office;" and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Marshall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill "respecting future confiscations;" and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments, and doth agree to the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Towles reported, from the committee appointed to confer with the directors of the public buildings, on the subject of their late memorial, that the committee had, according to order, conferred with them thereon, and had come to a resolution, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the act, entitled an act, "for the removal of the seat of government;" as provides for the erection of separate buildings as a Capitol, as Halls of Justice, and for the reception of the several Executive boards and offices, ought to be repealed; and that the directors ought to be authorized to cause one building to be erected for the purposes aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Towles, Madison, Zane and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Zane reported, from the committee to whom the bill "concerning the appointment of sheriffs," was committed that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Towles presented, according to order, a bill "for giving further power to the directors of the public buildings;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, examined the statement and report of the commissioners appointed to settle the losses sustained by the burning of the warehouses at Rocky Ridge; and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the statement and report of the said commissioners respecting the quantity, proprietors, and price of the tobacco burnt in the warehouses at Rocky Ridge, ought to be confirmed and established, except as to 16 hogsheads, which the said commissioners have cause to suspect an imposition in; and that a further investigation ought to be made by the said commissioners concerning the same.



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said commissioners ought to be authorised to receive and state any further claims that may be made for tobacco burnt in the said warehouses, and report the same to the next session of Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the treasurer be directed to apportion the money arising from the sales of tobacco at Rocky Ridge warehouses, agreeably to an act of last session of Assembly, entitled "an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" and pay the same to the proprietors of the tobacco lost, agreeably to their respective claims: first paying to Stephen Pankey, jun. who was employed as a clerk by the commissioners aforesaid, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ for his services.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Commerce do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Tazewell presented, according to order, a bill "concerning the paper money paid into the public treasury, by British debtors;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the public printer be directed to strike fifteen copies of the report respecting the revenue for each county within the Commonwealth, to be distributed with the laws of the present session.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved,* That any person who has served in the armies of these United States from the 1st day of May, 1779, until the close of the late war between America and Great Britain, and who is possessed of a land warrant issued agreeably to the proclamation made by the King of Great Britain in the year 1763, may exchange the same with the register of the Land Office, for a warrant, agreeably to this resolution; which warrant he shall be permitted to locate on any vacant lands reserved by an act of this Assembly, on the eastern side of the river Ohio, for the officers and soldiers of this Commonwealth on continental or State establishment.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Marshall do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the progress made by the Solicitor with the continental commissioner in the settlement of the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States; also to inquire into the progress made by the said Solicitor in collecting the books and papers of the several commercial agents who have been in the service of this State, and stating the debts due thereon, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and agreed to a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, as to the first object of their appointment, that progress has been made in examining the said accounts from the 13th of September 1775, to the 1st of September 1777, under heads shewing the nature of the different expenditures; that the continental commissioner neither has confirmed or rejected any charge exhibited against the United States, except for monies advanced to persons authorised by Congress to receive such advancements: all of which he has confirmed; that the account so examined, including the said monies, amounts (as stated by the Solicitor,) to the sum of 448,110*l.* 4*s.* and a penny farthing, Virginia currency.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of the Solicitor, that the said commissioner alleged as a reason for his declining to establish the claims, that in his opinion, his instructions did not admit of his doing so, except in cases expressly sanctioned by orders of Congress or those of persons acting immediately under the authority of the United States, which unfortunately happen to occur but seldom in the claims of this Commonwealth, as there was never a continental officer permanently situated to command in this State, and her expenditures for the common defence, have been urged by necessary occasions, not admitting of delays until the orders of Congress could be obtained therefor.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of the said Solicitor, that a further examination into the said accounts has been prevented by the resignation of Mr. Turner, the continental commissioner; and that Mr. Andrew Dunscomb, who has been appointed to succeed him, cannot enter on the execution of his office, until he shall receive from the superintendent of finance or board of finance, his commission and instructions, which, from the uncertain state of that department, may be long delayed.

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the resolutions of Congress, bearing date the 3d of June last, afford to the commissioner of the United States, full latitude for allowing and establishing any claims which, from the best evidence to be obtained, shall appear to him to be just, although no written voucher whatever shall attend the same: *Provided,* it shall appear by satisfactory proof, that such vouchers have been destroyed or lost, or that from the circumstances of any case, they never have been obtained.

*It is therefore further resolved, as the opinion of this committee,* That the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to represent to that honorable body, the manner in which their former commissioner has acted, and to obtain such orders and instructions to his successor, as will give to this State the ease and benefits meant by the said resolutions, in the settlement of the said accounts.

And whereas, delays in the settlement of the said accounts will be attended with many inconveniences;

*Resolved, therefore, as the further opinion of this committee,* That the said delegates ought in like manner to be instructed, to urge the qualification of the new commissioner to enter upon, and prosecute that business.

It further appears to your committee, as to the latter object of their appointment, from the information of the So<sup>l</sup>

licitor, that the books of William Aylett are in his office, but no debts appear thereon to be due from the public; that the books of William Armistead are not yet adjusted, but the said Armistead is now engaged in that business, and when it is done, the books will be delivered to the said Solicitor, whereupon he will be able to make the statement of the debts, if any; that Thomas Smith's books are in Louisa, and his being lately engaged in other public business, has prevented him from getting them down: but the debts on his books were mostly transferred to those of Benjamin Day, his successor, whose books were chiefly destroyed by the enemy at the time of Arnold's invasion; that the books of David Ross are in the Solicitor's office; and that a statement of the debts due thereon, was laid before the last session of Assembly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for giving further powers to the directors of the public buildings;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend and reduce the several laws 'for appropriating the public revenue' into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "directing the liquidation of certain public accounts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'regulating the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees,' and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts,'" and "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, December 31, 1784.

An engrossed bill, "giving further powers to the directors of the public buildings;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, giving further powers to the directors of the public buildings."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Towles do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court, in the Kentucky district,'" was read the third time.

An engrossed clause, was offered to be added to the said bill, by way of rider, to empower the courts of the counties within the said district, to erect a courthouse and prison for the use of the said Supreme Court; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of rider.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the appointment of sheriffs," was read the third time; and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "to amend and reduce the several laws for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "concerning the paper money paid into the public treasury by British debtors;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the House be called over immediately.

The House being accordingly called over, the names of those who failed to appear, were noted; and the names of those who made default being again called over, some were excused on account of sickness, employment in the service of the State elsewhere, and other justifiable avocations.

*Ordered*, That the sergeant at arms attending this House, take into his custody Edward Carter, one of the members for the county of Albemarle; Adam Stephen, one of the members for the county of Berkeley; George Hancock,



one of the members for the county of Botetourt; Thomas Edmunds and Thomas Claiborne, members for the county of Brunswick; Charles Patteson, one of the members for the county of Buckingham; James Adams, one of the members for the county of Campbell; John Taylor, one of the members for the county of Caroline; William Watkins, one of the members for the county of Dinwiddie; Thomas West, one of the members for the county of Fairfax; John Crittenden, one of the members for the county of Fayette; Batte Peterson, one of the members for the county of Greenville; Isaac Coles, one of the members for the county of Halifax; Isaac Vanmiter, one of the members for the county of Hampshire; William Norvell and William Walker, members for the county of James City; John Scasbrook Wills and Robert Marshall, members for the county of Isle of Wight; Philip Barbour, one of the members for the county of Jefferson; Edmund Byne, one of the members for the county of King and Queen; Joseph Jones, one of the members for the county of King George; William Dandridge Claiborne, one of the members for the county of King William; Anthony Street and John Glenn, members for the county of Lunenburg; John Logan and George Slaughter, members for the county of Lincoln; Benjamin Wilson and Francis Worman, members for the county of Monongalia; William Randolph, one of the members for the county of Mecklenburg; Ebenezer Zane and David Shepherd, members for the county of Ohio; Benjamin Lankford and William Dix, members for the county of Pittsylvania; John Clarke, one of the members for the county of Prince Edward; John Ackiss, one of the members for the county of Princess Anne; John Scott Bullitt, one of the members for the county of Prince William; John Fauntleroy and Landon Carter, members for the county of Richmond; John Hays, one of the members for the county of Rockbridge; Abraham Keller, one of the members for the county of Shenandoah; Albrington Jones, one of the members for the county of Southampton; Bailey Washington, one of the members for the county of Stafford; John Allen, one of the members for the county of Surry; and John Langhorne, one of the members for the county of Warwick.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the names of the members who have absented themselves from the service of this House, without leave, be published in the Virginia Gazette.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the names of the members who shall absent themselves during the remainder of the session, without the leave of this House, be published in the Virginia Gazette.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable, and for other purposes,” with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes,’ with several amendments; to which they also desire the concurrence of this House; also, they have agreed to the amendment of this House to their amendments to the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for clearing Roanoke river,’ with several amendments; to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Fitzhugh:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for opening and extending the navigation of James river,” with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to a resolution, authorising commissioners to represent to the State of Pennsylvania, the necessity of opening a communication between the waters of the Potomac and those of the Ohio and its branches. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “to amend the act, ‘to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue.’” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “giving further powers to the directors of the public buildings, with several amendments,” to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bills “to regulate the solemnization of marriages;” “to amend the act, ‘for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district;” and “concerning the appointment of sheriffs;” also, to a resolution concerning the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “giving further powers to the directors of the public buildings;” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Towles do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing the report of the commissioners appointed to confer with commissioners appointed by the Legislature of Maryland, respecting the opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac; which were read, and ordered to be referred to Messrs. Grayson, Madison and Page.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;” and that Messrs. Grayson, Madison and Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to their amendments, to the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for clearing Roanoke river;” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bibb do acquaint the Senate therewith.



The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for opening and extending the navigation of James river;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, 'to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" and the same being again read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" and that Messrs. Stuart and Breckenridge do prepare and bring in the same.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That when this House doth adjourn on Wednesday next, it will adjourn to the 31st day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, 'for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and "directing the liquidation of certain public accounts," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, January 1, 1785.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the order made yesterday, for publishing in the Virginia Gazette, the names of those members who have absented themselves from the service of this House without leave, be rescinded.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and reduce the several laws, 'for appropriating the public revenue into one act;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, 'for appropriating the public revenue into one act."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Stuart presented, according to order, a bill "to explain and amend the act, 'to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to take under his care during the recess of Assembly, the public buildings; that he employ some person to take charge of them, and that he suffer no person to live in them, or to use them as stores, except for public property.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Benjamin Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Savary de Valcoulon, as agent for Messrs. Coulougnac and Company, merchants in France, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of the said Savary de Valcoulon, as sets forth, that in the year 1781, Mr. Peter Penet, as agent for this State in France, was furnished with goods by

the said Messrs. Coulougnac and Company, at a very low advance to a considerable amount, for which their accounts have been liquidated, and a warrant granted the petitioner for the balance adjudged to be due thereon, amounting to 4,785*l*. 14*s*.; that when the said goods were furnished the said Penet, he drew bills of exchange in favor of the said Coulougnac and Company, for the amount of their claim, which were returned protested, and no allowance has been made them in the said settlement by way of damages, in consequence of the said protests, and praying relief, is reasonable; and for ascertaining the damages which have accrued to the said Coulougnac and Company, by reason of the said protests, that two persons ought to be appointed, one to be chosen by the petitioner, and the other by the Governor on the part of the Commonwealth, to inquire into and settle the same, upon commercial principles, and that their report, or the report of a third person to be chosen by them, in case of disagreement, ought to be binding between the petitioner and the Commonwealth; which report ought to be made to the Executive for a warrant to issue for such further sum as shall be stated to be due to the said Messrs. Coulougnac and Company.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that funds may be provided for the immediate payment of the said claim of Messrs. Coulougnac and Company, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the petitioner may be reimbursed the expenses incurred by him in coming to America to solicit payment of the said claim, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the 1st and 2d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House being informed that Mr. John Glenn, one of the members for the county of Lunenburg; attended in custody of the sergeant at arms;

*Ordered*, That the said John Glenn be admitted to his seat, on paying fees.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bibb have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have receded from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;’” and they do adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “for opening and extending the navigation of James river.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Grayson presented, according to order, a bill “for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That Thomas Massey, Esq., or in case of his death or failing to act through other cause, such person as shall be appointed by the Executive in his stead, be authorised, in conjunction with the person appointed or to be appointed on the part of Maryland, to open and keep in repair a convenient road from such part of the waters of the Potomac, to such part of the river Cheat or of the river Monongalia, as on examination, they shall judge most eligible; and that the sum of 3,333 1-3 dollars arising from the taxes of the year 1784, out of the money subject to votes of the General Assembly, be paid by the treasurer on the joint order of the persons to be appointed as aforesaid, to be by them applied, together with a like sum voted by the State of Maryland, to the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the Governor be directed to write to the State of Pennsylvania, requesting permission to lay out and improve a road through such part of the said State as may be necessary, in the best and most proper direction from Fort Cumberland to the navigable part of the river Yohogania.

And the said resolutions being twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill “for opening and extending the navigation of James river;” and the same being again read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “for improving the navigation of James river;” and that Messrs. Madison and Henderson do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, ‘for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;’” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Tazewell reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, “for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Grayson, Madison and Page.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution allowing any person possessed of a land warrant under the proclamation of 1763, to exchange the same with the register of the Land Office, with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill “to amend and reduce the several acts, ‘for appropriating the public revenue into one act,’” with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House;



also, they do adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that may be rendered navigable. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to explain and amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Stuart and Breckenridge.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue into one act;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

Ordered, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Resolved, That the several continental commissioners appointed to settle accounts in this State, shall be, and they are hereby authorised and empowered, to administer the necessary oaths for proving all accounts that may respectively be offered to them for settlement.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill "for taking a survey of the rivers James and Potomac, and of the nearest western waters to the head branches of the same, that they may be rendered navigable;" and the same being read;

Resolved, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

Ordered, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

X Resolved, That the Executive be authorised to appoint three persons, who, or any two of whom, shall make an accurate examination and survey of James river, from Lynch's ferry in Campbell county upwards, of the most convenient course for a road from the highest navigable part of the said river to the nearest navigable part of the waters running into the Ohio, and of the said waters running into the Ohio; that they report to the next General Assembly a full account of such examination and survey, with an estimate of the expense necessary for opening and improving the navigation of the said waters of James river, and of the western waters, and of clearing the said road; that they be authorised to call on the lieutenant of the county of Greenbrier for a guard of militia not exceeding fifty men, in case they shall judge such guard to be necessary, which the said lieutenant is hereby ordered to furnish, and which shall be paid by the treasurer on order of the Executive, out of the revenue for the year 1784, subject to be appropriated by votes of the General Assembly; that the persons so appointed shall be furnished out of the said fund with such sum, not exceeding 200*l.* as the Executive may judge necessary; and shall each of them be allowed for his services the sum of 20*s.* for each day he shall be employed therein.

Resolved, That the Executive be further authorised to appoint three other commissioners, who, or any two of whom, shall carefully examine and fix on the most convenient course for a canal from the waters of Elizabeth in this State, to those passing through the State of North Carolina, and report their proceedings herein, with an estimate of the expense necessary for opening such canal, to the next General Assembly; and in case they shall find that the best course for such canal will require the concurrence of the State of North Carolina in the opening thereof, they are further authorised and instructed to signify the same to the said State, and to concert with any person or persons who may be appointed on the part thereof, the most convenient and equitable plan for the execution of such work, and to report the result to the next General Assembly. The said commissioners shall be entitled to the same allowance and be paid in the same manner as those to be appointed under the preceding resolution.

Resolved, That the same allowance, to be paid in the same manner, be made to Thomas Massey, for the service to which he is appointed to perform in conjunction with a commissioner appointed, or to be appointed by the State of Maryland.

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly for establishing the board of auditors, and directing a mode of stating public accounts;" "directing the liquidation of certain public accounts;" "and concerning the paper money paid into the public treasury by British debtors;" being read;

Ordered, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.



MONDAY, January 3, 1755.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution authorising any person possessed of a land warrant under the proclamation of 1763, to exchange the same with the register of the land office; and the same being read, was amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Marshall do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Strother reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Lawrence, late sheriff of the county of Isle of Wight, praying that the interest and damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court, for the balance of the taxes due for the year 1783, may be remitted, is reasonable; *Provided*, the principal and costs be paid on or before the first day of March next; it appearing to the committee that the petitioner and his deputies were sick for a considerable time, which retarded the collection of the taxes.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Willis Wilson, late sheriff of the county of Surry, praying that the interest and damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Courts for the balance of the taxes for the year 1783, amounting to 253*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, since which 76*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* has been paid, may be remitted, is reasonable; *Provided*, the principal and costs be paid on or before the 1st day of March next; it appearing to the committee that the deputy sheriffs were sick for a considerable time, which prevented the collection of the said taxes.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry pilots, praying that the rates for pilotage may be increased one-fifth, on all vessels drawing ten feet water and under, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Strother do carry the 1st and 2d resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills be brought in, pursuant to the last resolution; and that Messrs. Wray, Smith and King, do prepare and bring in the same.

An engrossed bill, "to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of one-half of the revenue tax for the year 1755." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of Commerce, to whom a letter from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing a petition of Messrs. Lacaze and Mallett, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Messrs. Lacaze and Mallett, with the several papers in support thereof, ought to be referred to the Executive; and that they be empowered to examine the same, and to make such allowance to the petitioners as to them shall appear to be just and right; to be paid on a warrant from the Governor, out of the funds appropriated for the payment of this State's quota to the United States.

And the said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco into one act;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, for the inspection of tobacco into one act.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Stuart reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to explain and amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for improving the navigation of James River;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for improving the navigation of James River;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Madison and Henderson.

Mr. Grayson reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed, and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for the appointment of naval officers, and ascer-

taining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for improving the navigation of James river," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for establishing the board of auditors, and directing the mode of stating public accounts;" "directing the liquidation of certain public accounts, and concerning the paper money paid into the public treasury by British debtors," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, January 4, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Grayson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to explain and amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to explain and amend the act, to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Breckenridge do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to Anthony Cardone, the sum of 400*l*. from that part of the revenue of 1784, which is subject to the votes of the General Assembly, for so much money deposited with Mr. William Aylett, agent for this State, as appears by a certificate signed by Patrick Henry, Esq. Governor of Virginia.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mann Page do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Wray presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Richard Brooke and James Tutt, to them referred, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Richard Brooke and James Tutt, setting forth, that they contracted with the late Fielding Lewis, Esq. for the building of the magazine for the public, on the Gun Factory lot in the town of Fredericksburg; and relying on the well known integrity of that gentleman, failed to require a written contract: shortly after which, and just before the completion of the work, the said Mr. Lewis died, and the petitioners are unable to prove the terms, except by the books and accounts of Mr. Lewis; and praying relief, is reasonable; and that Charles Yates, Francis Thornton and William Blades, gentlemen, or any two of them, ought to be appointed commissioners to examine and value the work done by the petitioners, and also to examine the books and accounts of the said Fielding Lewis, deceased, and make report thereupon to the Executive; agreeably to which report, warrants ought to issue for such sum as shall, by the said commissioners, or any two of them, be stated to be due to the petitioners.

And the said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendment of this House, to their amendment to the resolution authorising any person possessed of a land warrant under the proclamation of 1763, to exchange the same with the register of the Land Office. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to amend the act, for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:



*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to the Governor, the sum of 100*l*. for the purchase of furniture for the Governor's house; and that the same be made good out of the contingent fund.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Breckenridge reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to yesterday, to the bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, for the appointment of naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "directing the liquidation of certain public accounts;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mann Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution requesting the Governor to appoint some person to take care of the public buildings; also, to the bills "for opening and extending the navigation of the river Potomac;" "to explain and amend the act, 'to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth," with several amendments; to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "for improving the navigation of James river;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined and passed the treasurer's accounts and books; and he delivered in the same. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive be requested to take measures for the settlement of the accounts of the commissioners appointed to superintend the erecting the public foundry, and the management of the same; and that they make the said commissioners such reasonable allowance as they may think their services entitle them to.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers;" and that Mr. Madison do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "to amend the several acts of Assembly, for establishing the board of auditors, and directing the mode of stating the public accounts;" and "concerning the paper money paid into the public treasury, by British debtors," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 5, 1735.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wray do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



A bill, "for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers;" was read the second time, and being amended at the clerk's table, was ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for enabling British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" and the said amendments were read, and are as followeth:

Page 2, line 2d; after the word "law," insert "or suit in equity."

3d; after "executions," insert "or attachment."

3d; after "judgment," insert "or decree."

4th; after "judgment," insert "or decree."

6th; strike out the word "said."

6th; strike out from the word "notwithstanding," to the end of the bill; and insert "and whereas many persons, formerly merchants or factors in this State, withdrew themselves therefrom, before or during the continuance of the last war, and joined the armies, or entered into the territories of the King of Great Britain; *Be it therefore enacted*, That all debts contracted before the 19th day of April 1775, with any merchant, factor or other person, who has since that time resided one year within the territories of the King of Great Britain, not being in public employment for the United States, or either of them, or remained one month in any of his armies, not being a prisoner of war; or any person, who through any pretence whatsoever, hath refused to receive payment in the current money of this Commonwealth when offered, prior to the 1st day of January 1779, such persons debts shall be paid and interest abolished, in the same manner as is by this act prescribed for the payment of debts due to British subjects."

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th amendments, were severally read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The last amendment was read a second time; and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the bill to the Senate, and acquaint them that this House hath agreed to their 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th amendments, and hath disagreed to the other amendment.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly, for their services during the present session:

To the Reverend Benjamin Blagrove, at the rate of, per week,	-	-	£10 0 0
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates, per week,	-	-	35 00 0
To Mr. William Drew, clerk of the Senate, per week,	-	-	17 10 0
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, clerk of the committees of Privileges and Elections and Propositions and Grievances, per week,	-	-	15 0 0
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees of Claims and Commerce, per week,	-	-	12 0 0
To Mr. Charles Hay, clerk of the committees for Religion and Courts of Justice, per week,	-	-	6 0 0
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, sergeant at arms to the House of Delegates, per week,	-	-	10 0 0
To Mr. William Pierce, sergeant at arms to the Senate, per week,	-	-	10 0 0
To William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, John Hicks and William Drinkard, jun. door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each, per week,	-	-	5 0 0
To William Hicks and Thomas Paul, door-keepers to the Senate, per week,	-	-	5 0 0
To Elizabeth Jones, for taking care of, and cleaning the Assembly House,	-	-	10 0 0
To Bernard Webb, clerk to the committee appointed to prepare a statement of the public debt, per week,	-	-	6 0 0

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning naval officers, and ascertaining their fees, and the duties payable on goods imported into this State.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" also, they have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees;" and to the resolutions respecting Savary de Valconlon, John Lawrence and Willis Wilson; and to empower the commissioners appointed to settle the continental accounts in this State, to administer oaths to the persons applying for such settlement. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" and the same being again read;

*Resolved*, That a present free conference be desired with the Senate on the subject matter of the said amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to the present free conference desired by this House, on the subject matter of their amendment to the bill "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" and have appointed managers, who are attending in the conference chamber. And then he withdrew.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Tazewell, Breckenridge, Henderson, Stuart and Madison, do manage the conference on the part of this House; and the names of the managers were called over, and they went to the conference.

And being returned; Mr. Tazewell reported, that they had, according to order, met the managers of the Senate in the conference chamber, and fully discussed in free conference the subject matter of the Senate's amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for enabling the British merchants to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth," upon which it had been agreed by the managers of this House, that it should be proposed to recede on the part of this House from their disagreement to the Senate's amendment, and to agree to the said amendment with an amendment, which proposition the managers of the Senate had promised to report to their House.

The House then again proceeded to reconsider the amendment of the Senate; and the same being read,

A motion was made, and the question being put, that this House do recede from their disagreement to the said amendment, and agreed to the said amendment with an amendment, by striking out the words "proposed to be inserted in the bill by the Senate," and inserting in lieu of the said words the following clause, to wit: "*Provided, always*, that no citizen of this Commonwealth, of approved fidelity and attachment thereto, and who has been resident therein since the 19th of April 1775, and may have been in partnership with British merchants prior to that date, shall in any manner be affected by this act, but after establishing in the High Court of Chancery, his share of such copartnership with British merchants, shall be entitled to receive a like share of each debt, in the same manner as other good citizens are, and no more;"

It was resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith, and desire their concurrence to the amendment.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'for the inspection of tobacco, into one act;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the present mode of supporting the prisoners in the public jail, is found to be expensive and insufficient;

*Resolved*, That the Governor do contract with the keeper, or some other person, for the support of all prisoners brought to the public jail, on the best terms he can procure, and discharge such contract out of the contingent fund.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stuart do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Mann Page, Nelson and Tazewell, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Jaquelin Ambler, Esq.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a chief justice for the western district; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Mann Page, Nelson and Tazewell, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate, in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Cyrus Griffin, Esq.



A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed to settle the accounts of Captain Thomas Drew, late paymaster to the State garrison regiment, upon oath: *Provided*, that the said Captain Thomas Drew, do satisfy them by oath or other satisfactory proof, of the loss of his vouchers.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the order made on Wednesday last, that when this House do adjourn on Wednesday next, it will adjourn to the 31st day of March next, be rescinded.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tazewell do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Selden:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, appointing a commissioner to open a road from the waters of the Potomac to Cheat river; and appointing commissioners to examine James river, and report a road to the waters of the Ohio; also, they have agreed to the bills "for clearing and improving the navigation of James river," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers." And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the representatives of the late Brigadier General Woodford, in consequence of his captivity at Charlestown, and his death at Sandy Hook on his passage to New York for the recovery of his health, have been deprived of his vouchers necessary for settling his accounts with the public, and the only means they have left to ascertain the same, is by a small book of accounts stated in his own hand writing;

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be, and they are hereby authorised to accept as proof in the settlement of General Woodford's accounts, his book of accounts of receipts and expenditures during his command in the army; the same being first proven by the executors to have been found so stated by them.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Grayson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for clearing and improving the navigation of James river;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carrington reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances which induced the auditors to issue to Daniel Broadhead, sundry certificates for military claims of the soldiers of the Illinois regiment, and how far the same have been accounted for by the said Broadhead, to the persons entitled thereto, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the same, and come to a report and resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that John Crittenden and George Slaughter, Esquires, two of the representatives from the Kentucky country, wrote to the auditors, representing that the different claimants were so remote from their office, that it would be relieving them much to make a general settlement of all their respective claims from the returns on the journals of the western commissioners with the said Broadhead, who would convey the certificates to those entitled to them.

That the auditors, upon the ground of the said letters, and the said Broadhead's giving bond with security, conditioned to take certain measures upon his arrival in the western country, for giving notice to the different claimants of his having settled their accounts, and being possessed of their certificates, did settle with the said Daniel Broadhead sundry of the said claims, and issued him certificates thereupon to the amount of 18,000*l.*, upon which he also drew the interest, which had at that time become due.

It also appears to your committee, that sundry of the claimants included in the settlement made by the said Broadhead, have never received the same, nor have been informed of his having settled their said claims; nor does it appear that he has ever given the notice engaged to be given in the said bond.

*Resolved*, as the opinion of this committee, That the auditors ought immediately to take measures for recovering from the said Daniel Broadhead, the certificates issued to him on account of the aforesaid claimants, or other like certificates to the same amount, together with the interest which may have been drawn thereon, in the warrants so drawn, or the amount of such interest in specie, so far as he cannot show that he has actually accounted with the persons respectively entitled to the same; and that they re-settle such of the said claimants' accounts as upon the recovery aforesaid from the said Broadhead, may appear not to have been satisfied or paid by him.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, by an act of the present session of Assembly, provision hath been made for payment of 30,000*l.* towards discharging the debts due by this State to persons who are not citizens thereof, and the money which shall arise from the sale of the Gosport lands, hath been appropriated to the payment of those debts;

*Resolved*, therefore, That the warrants which may be issued by the direction of the Governor with the advice of Council, in favor of the public creditors within the description aforesaid, shall be receivable in payment of the said



Gosport lands, or in discharge of the bonds which may be granted for the payment of those lands: *Provided*, the warrants so issued be paid on or before the day when such bonds become payable; and to prevent all debts respecting the said warrants, it shall be expressed in the body of the same, or endorsed thereon, that such warrants shall be receivable in payment of Gosport lands; and the warrants so issued, shall be countersigned by the Governor, and a list thereof kept by the clerk of the Council.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill “to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Smith reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Smith do carry the bills to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And he delivered in the same, and then withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to amend the several acts of Assembly ‘for establishing the board of auditors, and directing the mode of stating public accounts;’” “concerning the paper money paid into the treasury by British debtors;” and “directing the liquidation of certain public accounts,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

“An act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize.”

“An act, for keeping in repair the pass at Rock-fish gap.”

“An act, for altering the court day of the county of Chesterfield.”

“An act, for altering the boundary line between the glebe lands of the parish of Manchester, in the county of Chesterfield, and the lands of William Logwood.”

“An act, for altering the place of holding courts in the county of Prince George.”

“An act, to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for dissolving several vestries, and appointing overseers of the poor in certain counties.’”

“An act, to amend and reduce the several acts, ‘for appropriating the public revenue into one act.’”

“An act, to explain and amend the act, ‘to levy certain taxes in aid of the public revenue.’”

“An act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters.”

“An act, to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for establishing the town of Kempsville, in the county of Princess Anne.’”

“An act, for establishing several new ferries.”

“An act, appropriating the fees of the Land Office in aid of the public revenue, and placing the register, his deputies and assistants, on the civil list.”

“An act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom.”

“An act, respecting future confiscations.”

“An act, for further continuing the act, entitled ‘an act, concerning pensioners.’”

“An act, authorising the Governor with the advice of the Council, to suspend, when necessary, the surveying of certain lands in the western country.”

“An act, for establishing and reviving inspections of tobacco at sundry places.”

“An act, to revive an act, entitled ‘an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.’”

“An act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river.”

“An act, concerning the appointment of sheriffs.”

“An act, compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same, and for other purposes.”

“An act, giving John Hoomes the exclusive privilege of conveying persons in a stage coach to and from certain places for a limited time, and for other purposes.”

“An act, for dividing the county of Jefferson into two distinct counties.”

“An act, for appointing trustees for the town of York.”

“An act, to amend and explain an act, entitled ‘an act, for repealing in part the act, for establishing the town of Louisville.’”

“An act, to continue an act, entitled ‘an act, to revive and amend in part an act, entitled ‘an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights,’ and for other purposes.’”

“An act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections.”

"An act, for providing arms and ammunition for the defence of the State."

"An act, to prevent the counterfeiting certain certificates and warrants."

"An act, giving further powers to the directors of the public buildings."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes.'"

"An act, to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court, in the Kentucky district.'"

"An act, to remedy certain impositions in the adjustment of military claims."

"An act, for continuing the act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State.'"

"An act, giving James Rumsey the exclusive right of constructing and navigating certain boats, for a limited

time."

"An act, to regulate the solemnization of marriages."

"An act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for clearing the Roanoke river.'"

"An act, to amend the act, 'for establishing pilots, and regulating their fees.'"

"An act, to explain and amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for adjusting and settling the titles of claimers to unpatented lands under the present and former governments, previous to the establishment of the Commonwealth's Land Office.'"

"An act, vesting the estate of Stephen Yancey, deceased, in his children, and for other purposes."

"An act, for further continuing and amending the act, 'for the inspection of pork, beef, flour, tar, pitch and turpentine.'"

"An act, for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river."

"An act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac and James rivers."

"An act, to amend the act, 'for equalizing the land tax.'"

"An act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for the inspection of tobacco, into one act.'"

"An act, to increase the number of trustees for the town of Portsmouth, directing their annual election, and for granting certain powers to the corporation of the borough of Norfolk."

"An act, to amend the act, 'for clearing Mattaponi river.'"

"An act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church."

"An act, for dissolving the vestry of the parish of Southfarnham, in the county of Essex."

"An act, concerning the arrears of levies due in the parish of St. Thomas, in the county of Orange."

"An act, to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of one half of the revenue tax for the year 1785."

"An act, for establishing a town at the Sweet Springs, in the county of Botetourt."

"An act, punishing certain offences injurious to the tranquillity of this Commonwealth."

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, January 6, 1785.

The House being informed that Mr. Batte Peterson, one of the members for the county of Greenville, attended in custody of the sergeant at arms, and that there was good cause to excuse his absence when the House was called over on Friday last;

*Ordered*, That the said Batte Peterson be admitted to his seat, without paying fees.

There not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to other business,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock.

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#### FRIDAY, January 7, 1785.

The House met according to their adjournment;

But there not being a sufficient number of members to proceed to business,

The House adjourned till the 31st day of March next.

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA;

BEGUN AND HELD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND,

*In the County of Henrico,*

*ON MONDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER, IN THE YEAR OF OUR  
LORD ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE.*

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RICHMOND:

PRINTED BY THOMAS W. WHITE, OPPOSITE THE BELL-TAVERN.

.....  
1828.



THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

IN TWO VOLUMES

LONDON

Printed by J. Sturges, at the

Printers, in the Strand

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

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### GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

*BEGUN* and held at the Public Buildings in the City of Richmond, on Monday the 17th of October,  
in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-five.

On which day, being the day appointed by law for the meeting of the General Assembly, the oaths required to be taken by the Delegates were administered by the Privy Council, to such of the members as appeared; after which they repaired to their seats in the House of Delegates;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

TUESDAY, October 18, 1785.

The House met according to their adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

WEDNESDAY, October 19, 1785.

The House met according to their adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

THURSDAY, October 20, 1785.

The House met according to their adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

---

FRIDAY, October 21, 1785.

The House met according to their adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till to-morrow, 12 o'clock.

SATURDAY, October 22, 1785.

The House met according to their adjournment, and several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House;  
But the number not being sufficient to proceed to business,  
The House adjourned till Monday, 12 o'clock.

MONDAY, October 24, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Beckley be appointed clerk of this House.

Thomas Johnson, Esq. a delegate for the county of Louisa, reminded the House of the necessity of proceeding to the choice of a Speaker, and recommended Benjamin Harrison, Esq. a member for the county of Surry, as a person in every respect qualified to fill that office. He was seconded by Hugh Rose, Esq. a delegate for the county of Amherst.

And Joseph Prentis, Esq. a delegate for the county of York, recommended John Tyler, Esq. a member for the county of Charles City, as a person who in the discharge of the duties of that office heretofore, had given undeniable proofs of his abilities and integrity; and was seconded by Thomas Underwood, Esq. a delegate for the county of Goochland.

*Resolved*, That this House will proceed to the election of a Speaker by ballot.

The House accordingly, proceeded to the election of a Speaker by ballot; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Johnson, Rose, Stuart, Prentis, and Underwood, were nominated a committee to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then proceeded at the clerk's table to examine the ballot boxes, and reported to the House, that they had, according to order, examined the same, and found the numbers thereupon to stand as follows:

For Benjamin Harrison, Esq. 45.

For John Tyler, Esq. 39.

So that Mr. Harrison being chosen Speaker of this House, he was conducted to the chair, from whence he made his acknowledgments to the House for the honor conferred on him in the following manner:

GENTLEMEN,—My warmest acknowledgments are due to you for the honor you have conferred on me, and I request you to accept them. The highest gratification a patriotic breast can feel, is the approbation of its country. I have experienced this on such a variety of occasions, that I am really at a loss for words to express the full sense I entertain of the obligations I am under. I rely on your goodness, therefore, to supply the deficiency.

The honorable office you have conferred upon me requires diligence, the strictest impartiality, patience and fortitude, in neither of which I hope to be found defective, but in the exercise of the latter, I may sometimes be under the necessity of requesting your friendly assistance, and I have full confidence it will not be withheld. Long experience has convinced me, that business cannot be expedited without a due observance of rule and order; I would not be a slave to the former when change may be made for the better, but the latter can never be dispensed with in such an assembly as this, without lowering its dignity, and of course essentially injuring the public. As the observation is too striking to be denied, I have my hopes it will have its force.

The various subjects that will fall under our consideration, are of such consequence to the peace, happiness, and indeed safety of the Commonwealth, that it might be thought improper in me to remind you of the duty you owe your constituents and the public in general; if a very recent instance had not taught us that the public weal has some time been lost sight of, when it interfered with our private advantage, or domestic enjoyments. Let us by our diligence, win from the remembrance of our people what has heretofore been amiss, and shew them, that to their welfare and the prosperity of the Commonwealth, all other considerations have given place.

My endeavors shall be used to prevent errors in your proceedings; yet, as fallibility is the portion of us all, some may possibly be found, in which case I request your most favorable interpretation, for I assure you they shall not be the work of design.

*Ordered*, That the Reverend Benjamin Blagrove be appointed chaplain to this House, and that he attend to read prayers in the House every morning, at the time appointed by a standing order of the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Freeman Eppes be appointed sergeant at arms to this House; and that he give his attendance accordingly.

*Ordered*, That William Drinkard, John Hicks, Daniel Hicks and William Drinkard, jun. be appointed door-keepers to this House; and that they give their attendance accordingly.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to take into their consideration the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, stating several matters for the consideration of



the General Assembly, and referring to sundry letters and papers enclosed on the subject thereof; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That writs issue for the election of delegates, to serve in the present General Assembly, for the county of Stafford, in the room of William Brent, Esq. deceased; for the county of Northumberland, in the room of Thomas Gaskins, Esq. who hath accepted the office of sheriff; and for the city of Williamsburg, in the room of Henry Tazewell, Esq. appointed a judge of the General Court.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, October 25, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Religion, be appointed;

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Zachariah Johnston, Norvell, Tyler, Carter Henry Harrison, Watkins, Strother, Nicholas, Markham, Sherwin, Robert Clark, John Clarke, Thomas Smith, Henry Fry, Lewis Burwell, Carter Bassett Harrison, Goodall, Bibb, Gatewood, Curtis and Madison; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all matters and things relating to religion and morality, and all such as shall be from time to time referred to them, and report their proceedings with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Privileges and Elections, be appointed;

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tyler, Stuart, Thomas, Johnston, Carter Henry Harrison, Norvell, Madison, Randolph, Underwood, Prentiss, Watkins, John Mayo, Ruffin, Coles, Strother, Wells, Thomas Smith, King, Richard Lee, Braxton, Peyton, Steward, and Robert Clark; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to examine in the first place, all returns of writs for electing delegates to serve in this present General Assembly, and compare the same with the forms prescribed by law; and to take into their consideration all such matters as shall or may come in question, touching returns, elections, and privileges, and to report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, from time to time, to the House; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That in all cases of controverted elections, to be heard at the bar of this House, or before the committee of Privileges and Elections, the petitioners do, by themselves or their agents, within a convenient time, to be appointed either by the House or the committee of Privileges and Elections, as the matter to be heard shall be before the House, or the said committee, deliver to the sitting members or their agents, lists of the persons intended by the petitioners to be objected to, who voted for the sitting members, giving in the said lists the several heads of objection, and distinguishing the same against the names of the voters objected to; and that the sitting members do, by themselves or their agents, within the same time, deliver the lists on their parts, to the petitioners or their agents.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Propositions and Grievances, be appointed;

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Tyler, Strother, Watkins, Randolph, Wilkinson, Underwood, Nicholas, Sherwin, Thomas Smith, Hawes, Thornton, Markham, Gatewood, Richard Bland Lee, Ruffin, Bland, Carter Bassett Harrison, Curtis, Briggs, Bibb, John Clarke, Robert Clark, Cropper, Hopkins, Lankford, Zachariah Johnston, Joshua Fry, Henry Fry, New, Westwood, Parramore, Stith, Robertson, Helm, Willis, Riddick, Robert Moore Riddick, Stubblefield, Garland, Dillard, Wilson Miles Cary, Talbot, King, Jones, Eggleston, Coles, Tapscott, Reid, Richard Lee, Thomas Johnson, Turberville, White, Barksdale, Taylor, Ridley, Southall, James Ball, jun. Richard Cary, Anderson, Rentfro, Peyton, Macon, Patteson, Temple, Thompson, Wills, Scott, Pettus, Daniel, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Bradford, Lucas, Trigg, Wilkins, Pettyjohn, William Walker, and Gordon; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration all propositions and grievances that shall or may come legally certified to this Assembly, and to report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, to this House; and all such propositions and grievances are to be delivered to the clerk of the House, and by him to the said committee of course; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee for Courts of Justice, be appointed;

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Madison, Prentiss, Stuart, Arthur Lee, Carter Bassett Harrison, Briggs, Richard Bland Lee, Stith, Nicholas, Turberville, James Ball, and Rose; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all matters relating to courts of justice, and such other matters as shall from time to time, be referred to them, and report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and the said committee are to inspect the Journals of the last session, and draw up a state of the matters then depending and undetermined, and the progress that was made therein, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and also examine what laws have expired since the last session, and inspect such temporary laws as will expire with the end of this session, or are near expiring, and report the same to the House, with their opinions, which of them are fit to be revived and continued; and the said committee are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Claims, be appointed;

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, Watkins, John Mayo, William Mayo, Strother, William Walker, Underwood, Cabell, Sherwin, Bibb, Hawes, Lankford, Gatewood, Cropper, Parramore, Willis, Riddick, Wills, Garland, Eggleston, Hopkins, White, Barksdale, Taylor, Ridley, Southall, Richard Cary, Burwell, Pettus, Steward, Lucas, Trigg, Wilkins, Pettyjohn and Gordon; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take into their consideration all public claims referred from the last to this present session of Assembly, and all matters that shall be, from time to time, to them referred; and to report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Ordered*, That a committee of Commerce, be appointed;

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Braxton, Watkins, King, Westwood, Ruffin, Bland, Jones, Wills, Parramore, Thornton, Briggs, Rose, Patteson, Mayo, Temple, Thompson, Prentiss, Arthur Lee, Madison and Gordon; and they are to meet and adjourn from day to day, and to take under their consideration, all such matters and things relative to the trade, manufactures and commerce of this Commonwealth, as shall, from time to time, be referred to them, and to report their proceedings, with their opinion thereupon; and also, occasionally, such improvements as in their judgment may be made, in the commerce and manufactures of this State, to the House; and they are to have power to send for persons, papers and records, for their information.

*Resolved*, That eleven of the committee of Propositions and Grievances; seven of the committee of Privileges and Elections, and five of any other committee, be a sufficient number to make a committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmund Pendleton be appointed clerk to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances; Mr. Adam Craig to the committees of Claims and Commerce; and Mr. Charles Hay to the committees for Religion and Courts of Justice.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the laws of this Commonwealth respecting the appointment of sheriffs, ought to be amended.

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in a bill or bills, pursuant to the said resolution.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a letter from the commissioners of the Board of Treasury, which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, October 26, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the Governor be directed to cause the journals and proceedings of the Executive to be laid before the General Assembly.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Cumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," which was published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, for the consideration of the people; that they highly disapprove of the same, considering it in its principle as contrary to equal right, and in its effect as detrimental to the interest of religion; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Mecklenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, setting forth, that they have seen the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," which was published by order of the House of Delegates, at their last session, for the consideration of the people; that they conceive it to be founded in a pious regard for the advancement of christianity, on principles of equal justice, and without preference to any denomination of christians; and praying that the said bill may be enacted into a law.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Michael Karns, was presented to the House, and read; praying that an act may pass for establishing a public ferry across the Monongalia river, from his land at the mouth of Ducken's creek to the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of the inspectors of tobacco at the Petersburg warehouses; setting forth, that they conceive the

allowance made to them by the law for establishing the said inspection is not adequate to their trouble; and praying that their salaries may be enlarged and some compensation made to them for its deficiency during the last year.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the warehouses in the town of Petersburg, are not capable of receiving all the tobacco which is carried to that place, and praying that another inspection may be established on the lands of Alexander Glass Strachan, in the said town.

Also, a petition of Thomas Evans, praying that an act may pass authorising him to keep a public ferry across the Monongalia river from his lot of land in Morgantown, at the mouth of Dicker's creek, to the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of William Tyler; praying that the estate of his brother John Tyler, who was convicted of murder in December last and executed accordingly, which is forfeited to the Commonwealth, may be granted to him.

Also, a petition of Landon Carter; praying that an act may pass for establishing a town on his land in the county of Fauquier, at a place called Norman's Ford.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the inspection of tobacco at Rust's warehouse may be removed to the town of Kinsale, in the county of Westmoreland.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the auditors of public accounts do lay before the House the number of hogsheads of tobacco inspected at each inspection, between the 1st day of October 1783, and the 1st day of October 1785.

A petition of John Francis Conan, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was a resident of the Illinois, when the troops belonging to this State first penetrated into that country, and being firmly attached to the interest of the State, he furnished them with goods and medicines to a considerable amount, and attended as a physician and surgeon to those who were either sick or wounded; and praying that his accounts may be examined, and the balance which may be found due, paid to him.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and that Messrs. Arthur Lee, and Strother, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the treasury by weight;" and that Messrs. Prentis, Tyler and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in November next; also, of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; and a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the militia law ought to be amended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, enabling the Executive to bring persons offending against this Commonwealth, by attempting to alienate any of the territory of the Commonwealth, or to set up a separate government, in any part thereof, to punishment.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the last resolution; and that Messrs. Braxton, Madison, Tyler, Arthur Lee, Nicholas, Watkins and Prentis, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, October 27, 1785.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to decide the payment of quit rents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck to the proprietor, for the years 1779, 1780 and 1781;" and that Messrs. Henry Lee, and Stewart, do prepare and bring in the same.



Mr. Prentis presented, according to order, a bill "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive the act passed at the last session of Assembly, respecting the disciplining and regulating the militia, to be in several instances repugnant to the principles of the constitution, and particularly so, so far as it relates to the mode of displacing the old officers and supplying their places with others; and praying that the same may be amended.

Also, a petition of Smyth Tandy, praying that an act may pass, for establishing a town on his land in the county of Amherst, at a place called New-Glasgow.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that many inconveniences have been experienced by them in consequence of the great extent of the county; and praying that a part of it may be taken off and added to a part of the county of Bedford, and formed into a distinct county, agreeably to certain boundaries therein expressed.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereunto.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have long labored under many inconveniences from the great extent of the county; that they have been informed that a petition will be presented to the present session of Assembly, for forming a distinct county of part of the counties of Henry and Bedford; and praying that a part of their county may be added to the new county when thus formed, agreeably to the boundaries therein mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Pratt Hungerford, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a negro man slave, the property of the petitioner, was in the month of February last, committed to the jail of Westmoreland, upon a supposition that he had been guilty of a felony, who was shortly after upon examination acquitted; that during his confinement in jail he was frostbitten in so violent a manner, that he soon after died; and praying that the value of the said slave may be paid to him.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they examine into the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" and that Messrs. Prentis and Norvell, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections be instructed to inquire into the eligibility or ineligibility of Arthur Lee, Esq., one of the members returned to serve in this House for the county of Prince William, who it is suggested was a non-resident of the said county at the time of his election, and also incapacitated by holding an office of profit in the service of the United States.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Caroline, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that having seen the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," which was published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, for the consideration of the people; that they greatly disapprove of the same, considering it as unequal, impolitic, oppressive, and injurious to the interest of religion; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Buckingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henry, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Pittsylvania, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Nansemond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Campbell, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Charlotte, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Turberville, be added to the committee of Claims; Messrs. Bowyer, Clendinen, Sandford,

and Williamson Ball, to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, and Claims; Mr. Garrard, to the committees for Religion, and Propositions and Grievances; Messrs. Henry Lee, and Eggleston, to the committee for Courts of Justice; Mr. Matthews, to the committees of Privileges and Elections, Propositions and Grievances, Courts of Justice, and Commerce; and Mr. Nelson, to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Courts of Justice.

Mr. Prentis presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning highways, into one act;" and that Messrs. Henry Lee, Tyler, Thornton, Madison and Rose, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to provide for the poor of the respective parishes in this Commonwealth;" and that Messrs. Braxton, Watkins, Smith, Turberville, Bland and Bibb, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the printed report of the committee of Revisors, appointed by act of Assembly, to prepare a code of laws, which was made to a former Assembly, and published by their order, be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice, and that it be an instruction to the said committee to prepare and bring in bills pursuant to such of the bills contained in the said code as are not of a temporary nature.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Watkins do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stubblefield have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next; and Mr. Richard Lee, until Monday se'night.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to compel the owners of entries and surveys of lands on the eastern waters, to sue out patents for the same within a limited time;" and that Messrs. Stuart and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be authorised and empowered to draw on the treasurer for such a sum of money out of the contingent fund as may be necessary to make good the engagements already entered into, for procuring a statue of General Washington.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with advice of Council, be authorised and empowered to draw on the treasurer out of the contingent fund for such a sum of money as may be necessary to complete the printing, binding and distributing the collection of public acts now in force, prepared pursuant to a resolution of the General Assembly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend the act, concerning pensioners;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, October 28, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Armistead and Edmunds, be added to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, and Commerce; Messrs. Claiborne, Vanmeter, Goodall and Dudley, to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, and Claims; Messrs. Rose and White, to the committee for Religion; Messrs. Cabell and Nicholas to the committee of Privileges and Elections; and Mr. Smith, to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Accomac, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," published by order of the House of Delegates, for the consideration of the people, and highly disapprove of the same, considering it as dangerous and destructive to the interest of religion, oppressive, unjust and unequal; and praying that the same may not be passed into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Isle of Wight, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect;

Also, a petition and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Albermarle, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect;

Also, a petition and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect;

Also, a memorial of a convention of representatives of the freemen and inhabitants of the Kentucky district, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that being deputed for that purpose, they have met in convention and considered the various causes that point to the necessity of an immediate separation of the said district from the territories of this Commonwealth, and its establishment into an independent government; that actuated by sentiments of the purest filial affection, uninfluenced by an ill-directed or inconsiderate zeal, ambition, sedition, or any baser consideration of personal interest, they are incapable of cherishing a wish unfounded in justice, and are now impelled by expanding evils and irremediable grievances, to seek the present measure by means honorable to themselves, honorable to this Commonwealth, and injurious to neither; that their sequestered and remote situation from the seat of government, with the intervention of a mountainous desert of two hundred miles, always dangerous, and passable only at particular seasons, preclude every idea of a connection on republican principles; and they conceive, renders it equally unnecessary and improper to recite minutely, all the causes and reasoning which direct and justify the present application; but which they presume are equally incontestible, and demonstrate that their situation is irreconcilable to a connection with any community beyond the Appalachian mountains, other than the Federal Union; and praying that an act may pass, declaring and acknowledging the sovereignty and independence of the said district.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions, remonstrances, and memorial, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Zackquill Morgan, was presented to the House, and read; praying that an act may pass, for establishing a town upon his land in the county of Monongalia.

Also, a petition of Nicholas Lewis; praying that he may be authorised to keep a public ferry across the North Fork of James river from his land near the town of Charlottesville, to the opposite shore.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice be discharged from reporting from the Journals of the last session of Assembly, the several petitions and propositions then depending and undetermined; and that all such petitions and propositions be delivered by the clerk of course, to the proper committees.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, examined what laws had lately expired, and inspected such temporary laws as will expire at the end of this session, or are near expiring; and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service," which was continued by several subsequent acts, and which expired on the first day of August last, ought to be revived and continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act of Assembly passed in the year 1784, entitled "an act, for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants on pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" which was continued by a subsequent act of Assembly, and which expired on the first day of June last, ought to be revived and continued.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act of Assembly passed in the year 1781, entitled "an act, for calling in and funding the paper money of this State," which has been continued by several subsequent acts of Assembly, and will expire on the 7th day of January next, ought not to be further continued.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 2d resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to decide the payment of quit-rents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck to the proprietor;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the naturalization of the Marquis De La Fayette;" and that Messrs. Henry Lee, and Turberville, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss do carry the resolutions requesting the Governor to cause the Journals and proceedings of the Executive to be laid before the General Assembly to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of George Draper, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the auditors may be directed to liquidate his account for the depreciation of his pay as a surgeon in the continental army, and grant him certificates for the balance, which shall appear to be due to him.

Also, a petition of Agnes May, administratrix of Richard May, deceased; setting forth, that the intestate, before his death, furnished the commissary of the Illinois troops with a considerable quantity of corn, for which he received a bill on the treasurer; that this bill was laid before the commissioners for settling the western accounts, and allowed by them, but by mistake, was not entered on their Journals; and praying that the value of it may be paid to her.



*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in his children;" and that Messrs. Wills and Hawes, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Bath, to save the same;" and that Messrs. Steward and Eggleston, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury, by weight;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### SATURDAY, October 29, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Edmunds of Brunswick, Wilson, and William Harrison, be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, and Claims; Mr. Willis Riddick, to the committee of Commerce; Messrs. Carrington and Bullitt, to the committees of Privileges and Elections, Propositions and Grievances, and Courts of Justice; Mr. William Thornton, to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill, "to divide the payment of quit rents, due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck, to the proprietor;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the 1st Monday in December next.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Agnes May, administratrix of Richard May, deceased, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Agnes May, administratrix of Richard May, deceased, praying that a claim of 22l. 10s. due to the said decedent's estate, for supplies furnished the commissary of purchases of the Illinois department, which has been liquidated and allowed by the commissioners appointed for the adjustment of western claims, but neglected to be entered on their Journals, may be now entered thereon by the auditors of public accounts, and a warrant granted for the same, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Watkins do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A petition of John Archer, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1781, whilst he was endeavoring to remove some of the public stores from the town of Charlottesville, to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands, he was made a prisoner by them, and lost a very valuable horse; and praying that some compensation may be made to him therefor.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Louisa, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen and considered the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," which was published by order of the House of Delegates, at their last session; are of opinion, that it is repugnant to the principles of equal liberty, and will be, if enacted into a law, destructive of the interest of religion; and praying that the said bill may not pass the Legislature.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bullitt be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for the safe keeping of the records, in the proprietary office of the Northern Neck."

Mr. Wills presented, according to order, a bill "vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in his children;" and the same was received and read a second time.

A petition of Berditt Ashton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that Mr. James Blair died intestate, possessed of two tracts of land, and leaving four daughters, co-heiresses, two of whom are since married, and a third under age; that from the situation and quality of the land, it will be of little value to those who are entitled to it, and an advantageous offer has been made for it provided the title can be secured to the purchaser; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury, by weight;" and "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, October 31, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the auditors of public accounts, enclosing an account of the tobacco exported from October 1783 to October 1785; which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A bill, "vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in his children;" was read the second time, and ordered to be read the third time.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Henry Lee presented, according to order, a bill, "for the naturalization of the Marquis de la Fayette;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee for Courts of Justice, be discharged from proceeding on so much of the order of the House, of Thursday last, as respects the preparing bills, pursuant to such of the bills contained in the Revised Code, as are not of temporary nature, and that it be an instruction to the said committee, to report and bring in such of the printed bills contained in the said Revised Code, as are not of a temporary nature.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the delegates of this State in Congress be instructed, and they are hereby instructed, to move Congress for the speedy appointment of a commissioner to settle with one appointed by this State, the sum due from the United States for the expense of securing and defending the western country; the commissioner formerly appointed by Congress, having accepted a commission for negotiating with the western Indians.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Arthur Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to authorise the General Court to issue *dedimus*'s for taking the testimony of any persons living out of the State;" and that Messrs. Arthur Lee, and Prentiss, do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Privileges and Elections be instructed to inquire into the eligibility of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. one of the members returned to serve in this House for the county of Surry, who, it is suggested, was a non-resident of the said county at the time of his election.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the solicitor lay before this House a list of the sheriffs commissioned for the year 1784, and those now in commission.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mcriwether Smith be added to the committees for Courts of Justice, Propositions and Grievances, and Claims; and Messrs. Hamilton, Andrew Moore, Thomas Moore, Bowyer and Porter, to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, and Claims.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tapscott have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Tuesday se'nnight.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, 117 of the printed bills contained in the revised code, and not of a temporary nature, pursuant to the following list, viz:

A bill, "to arrange the counties into Senatorial districts."

- A bill, "concerning election of members of the General Assembly."
- A bill, "empowering one of the Privy Council to officiate in certain cases as Lieutenant Governor."
- A bill, "empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, to lay embargoes."
- A bill, "for regulating and disciplining the militia."
- A bill, "making provisions against invasions and insurrections."
- A bill, "for the annual appointment of delegates to Congress, and of a member for the committee of the States."
- A bill, "establishing a Board of Auditors."
- A bill, "concerning the public treasurer."
- A bill, "for appointing naval officers."
- A bill, "for the appointment of clerks to the Governor and Council."
- A bill, "concerning seamen."
- A bill, "for establishing cross posts."
- A bill, "directing the course of descents."
- A bill, "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates and the duty of executors and administrators."
- A bill, "for regulating conveyances."
- A bill, "securing the rights derived from grants to aliens."
- A bill, "concerning escheats."
- A bill, "to prevent frauds and perjuries."
- A bill, "of mortmain."
- A bill, "concerning the dower and jointures of widows."
- A bill, "for the preservation of the estates of idiots and lunatics."
- A bill, "providing that wrongful alienations of land shall be void so far as they be wrongful."
- A bill, "for levying county rates."
- A bill, "for the support of the poor."
- A bill, "for ascertaining the salaries and fees of certain officers."
- A bill, "declaring bills of credit to be equal to gold and silver coin of the same denominations."
- A bill, "to prevent the circulation of private bank notes."
- A bill, "to prevent losses by pirates, enemies and others, on the high seas."
- A bill, "for the preservation of vessels wrecked or in distress, and of their crews and cargoes."
- A bill, "concerning estrays."
- A bill, "for the restitution of stolen goods."
- A bill, "for preventing infection of the horned cattle."
- A bill, "for improving the breed of horses."
- A bill, "for preservation of deer."
- A bill, "for preventing frauds by the dealers in flour, beef, pork, tar, pitch and turpentine."
- A bill, "for licensing and regulating taverns."
- A bill, "concerning public roads."
- A bill, "for establishing public ferries."
- A bill, "concerning milldams and other obstructions of water courses."
- A bill, "for unlading ballast and burial of dead bodies from on board ships."
- A bill, "concerning public store houses."
- A bill, "concerning slaves."
- A bill, "concerning servants."
- A bill, "for apprehending and securing runaways."
- A bill, "declaring what persons shall be deemed mulattoes."
- A bill, "declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth."
- A bill, "concerning aliens."
- A bill, "declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred."
- A bill, "directing what prisoners shall be let to bail."
- A bill, "directing the mode of giving out and prosecuting writs of habeas corpus."
- A bill, "concerning guardians, infants, masters and apprentices."
- A bill, "to enable guardians and committees to perform certain acts for the benefit of those who are under their care."
- A bill, "for the restraint, maintenance and cure of persons not sound in mind."
- A bill, "for registering births and deaths."
- A bill, "for proportioning crimes and punishments in cases heretofore capital."
- A bill, "punishing persons guilty of certain forgeries."
- A bill, "concerning treasons, felonies and other offences committed out of the jurisdiction of this Commonwealth."
- A bill, "concerning truces, safe conducts, passports, licences and letters of marque."
- A bill, "for the employment, government and support of malefactors condemned to labor for the Commonwealth."
- A bill, "to encourage the apprehenders of horse stealers."
- A bill, "for preserving the privileges of ambassadors."



- A bill, "for the suppression and punishment of riots, routs and unlawful assemblies."
- A bill, "for forbidding and punishing affrays."
- A bill, "against conspirators."
- A bill, "against conveying or taking pretended titles."
- A bill, "for punishing bribery and extortion."
- A bill, "prescribing the punishment of those who sell unwholesome meat or drink."
- A bill, "to prevent the spreading of the smallpox."
- A bill, "for compelling vessels and persons coming, and goods brought from infected places, to perform quarantine."
- A bill, "for the more general diffusion of knowledge."
- A bill, "for amending the constitution of the college of William and Mary, and establishing more certain revenues for its support"
- A bill, "for establishing a public library."
- A bill, "for establishing religious freedom."
- A bill, "for saving the property of the church heretofore by law established."
- A bill, "for punishing disturbers of religious worship and sabbath breakers."
- A bill, "for appointing days of public fasting and thanksgiving."
- A bill, "annulling marriages prohibited by the Levitical law, and appointing the mode of solemnizing lawful marriages."
- A bill, "against usury."
- A bill, "to prevent gaming."
- A bill, "to prevent forestalling, regrating, engrossing and sales by auction."
- A bill, "constituting the high court of chancery."
- A bill, "constituting the general court."
- A bill, "constituting the court of admiralty."
- A bill, "constituting the court of appeals."
- A bill, "for constituting courts martial."
- A bill, "constituting justices of the peace and county courts."
- A bill, "concerning sheriffs."
- A bill, "for licensing counsel, attorneys at law, and proctors."
- A bill, "prescribing the oaths of fidelity, and the oaths of certain public officers."
- A bill, "to prevent the sale of public offices."
- A bill, "directing the method of proceeding upon impeachments."
- A bill, "for regulating proceedings in courts of equity."
- A bill, "for regulating proceedings in courts of common law."
- A bill, "directing the method of proceeding against and trying free persons charged with certain crimes."
- A bill, "directing the method of trying slaves charged with treason or felony."
- A bill, "for reforming the method of proceeding in writs of right."
- A bill, "concerning partitions and joint rights and obligations."
- A bill, "for the speedy determination of suits wherein foreigners are parties."
- A bill, "for the speedy recovery of money due from certain persons to the public."
- A bill, "for recovering demands of small value in a summary way."
- A bill, "providing that actions popular, prosecuted by collusion, shall be no bar to those which be pursued with good faith."
- A bill, "for preventing vexatious and malicious prosecutions, and moderating amercements."
- A bill, "providing a mean to help and speed poor persons in their suits."
- A bill, "providing that an infant may sue by his next friend."
- A bill, "declaring when the death of persons absenting themselves, shall be presumed."
- A bill, "prescribing a method of protecting inland bills of exchange, and allowing assignees of obligations to bring actions thereupon in their own names."
- A bill, "for limitation of actions."
- A bill, "for granting attachments against the estates of debtors removing privately, or absconding."
- A bill, "concerning inquests."
- A bill, "permitting those who will not take oaths, to be otherwise qualified."
- A bill, "for regulating the commencement of the year, and the computation of time."
- A bill, "allowing a bill of exceptions to be sealed."
- A bill, "for enforcing performance of awards made by rule of court."
- A bill, "concerning executions."
- A bill, "concerning rents and distresses."
- A bill, "providing remedy and punishment in cases of forcible entries and detainers."
- A bill, "for repealing certain acts of Parliament and of General Assembly."
- And the said printed bills were received, severally read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made, the said printed bills were severally read a second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the eligibility of Arthur Lee, Esq. one of the members returned to serve in this House for the county of Prince William, and his incapacity of retaining his seat, by holding an office of profit in the service of the United States; and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of the said Arthur Lee, that he resided in the county of Prince William, at the time of his election in the year 1781: that some time in the month of December, in the said year, he was appointed one of the delegates to represent this State in the Congress of the United States, and continued in the delegation until June or July 1784, when it ceased by adjournment of Congress, and he was appointed a commissioner to negotiate a treaty with the Indians, under which appointment he acted until July or August last, when he was appointed one of the commissioners of the board of treasury of the United States; that he is in the commission of the peace for the said county, and has occasionally acted as a magistrate; that he has not been in the said county, at any one time, more than five days since the year 1781; that he is enrolled in the militia of the said county, from which he was absent six months previous to his election in April last, and only therein three days before that period.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of the said Arthur Lee, that he hath accepted the office of a commissioner of the board of treasury, and that there is a fixed salary annexed thereto.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, upon the point of residency, that the said Arthur Lee, Esq. has not forfeited his seat in the House of Delegates; but was virtually a resident of the county for which he is returned a member, and was thereby eligible.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the said Arthur Lee having, since his election, accepted of a lucrative office under Congress, is thereby disqualified from retaining his seat as a member of the House of Delegates.

The said resolutions being again read were, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Reverend Robert Andrews, and David Meade, Esq. the commissioners appointed by the Executive to examine the country between the waters of Elizabeth river and those of the State of North Carolina, and to point out the course for a canal; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

A bill, "for the naturalization of the Marquis de la Fayette;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House immediately.

The House, accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in November next; also, of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, Esq. who hath resigned; and of a chief justice of the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bill "to amend the act concerning pensioners," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 1, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

An engrossed bill, "vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in his children;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in trustees, to be sold for the benefit of his children."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wills do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for the naturalization of the Marquis de la Fayette;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the naturalization of the Marquis de la Fayette."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Henry Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee for Courts of Justice.

A bill, "for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving farther time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to inquire into the progress made in the adjustment of the accounts between this Commonwealth and the United States, and make report thereof, together with their opinion thereupon.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Carrington, John Bowyer, Eggleston, Bibb and Goodall.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Pratt Hungerford, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from an attested record from the clerk of the court of Westmoreland county, that on the 29th day of March last, a court was held for the said county, for the trial of a negro man slave named Looney, the property of the petitioner, on suspicion of felony, of which charge the said slave was acquitted.

It further appears to your committee, from the deposition of Lewis Smith, sheriff of the said county of Westmoreland; and also from the depositions of John Lyons, Henry Session, Richard Muse and Thomas Doleman, that the said slave Looney, did not receive his trial at the first court called after his commitment; and that a second court was called and held for that purpose, on the day above mentioned; that when the said slave was committed to jail, he appeared to be in perfect health; but from his long confinement, and the severity of the season, he was frostbitten in so violent a manner that he died soon after his acquittal, although the greatest care was taken for his recovery.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Pratt Hungerford, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be allowed and paid by the public, the sum of 100*l.*, for the said slave.

And the said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The House proceeded to consider the report from the committee of Privileges and Elections, concerning the eligibility of Arthur Lee, Esq. which lay on the table; and the same was read, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of the said Arthur Lee, that he resided in the county of Prince William, at the time of his election in the year 1781; that some time in the month of December, in the said year, he was appointed one of the delegates to represent this State in the Congress of the United States, and continued in the delegation until June or July 1784, when it ceased by adjournment of Congress, and he was appointed a commissioner to negotiate a treaty with the Indians: under which appointment he acted until July or August last, when he was appointed one of the commissioners of the board of treasury for the United States; that he is in the commission of the peace for the said county, and has occasionally acted as a magistrate: that he has not been in the said county at any one time more than five days since the year 1781; that he is enrolled in the militia of the said county, from which he was absent six months previous to his election in April last, and only therein three days before that period.

It farther appears to your committee, from the information of the said Arthur Lee, that he hath accepted the office of commissioner of the board of treasury, and that there is a fixed salary annexed thereto.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, Upon the point of residency, that the said Arthur Lee has not forfeited his seat in the House of Delegates, but was virtually a resident of the county for which he is returned a member, and was thereby eligible.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said Arthur Lee having, since the election, accepted of a lucrative office under Congress, is thereby disqualified from retaining his seat as a member of the House of Delegates.

The 1st resolution being read a second time, the following amendment was proposed to be made thereunto;

Strike out the words "has not forfeited his seat in the House of Delegates, but was virtually," and insert "was."

And the said amendment being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

And then the resolution, as amended, being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The last resolution being read a second time, the following amendments were proposed to be made thereunto:

After the word "Lee" insert "by;"

After the word "is" in the last place, insert "not."

And the said amendments being twice read were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House;



And then the main question being put, that this House doth agree to the resolution,  
It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 80.

Noes, 19.

On a motion made by Mr. Richard Bland Lee, and seconded by Mr. Matthews:

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Thomas Parramore, Joshua Fry, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Sherwin, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Thomas Claiborne, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clark, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, John Daniel, Edmund Read, John Taylor, Henry Southall, David Pateson, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, Worlick Westwood, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Elias Wills, Thomas Smith, Thomas Mann Randolph, Thomas Underwood, George Clendinnen, John Lucas, Jeremiah Pate, Isaac Vanmiter, Parke Goodall, John Mayo, jun. John Dellaid, John Rentfro, William Norvell, William Walker, John Scasbrook Wills, William Dudley, Thomas Moore, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, James Ball, jun., William White, Samuel Garland, Lewis Barwell, Thomas Pettus, William Curtis, David Scott, William Pettjohn, Willis Riddick, William Hartwell Macon, Willis Wilson, Griffin Stith, David Bradford, Charles Porter, William Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, John Clarke, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, Benjamin Rufin, William Ball, John Bowyer, John Taylor, Thomas Ridley, John Willis, William Garrard, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Cary, jun. Wilson Miles Cary, and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Archibald Stuart, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, Henry Fry, William Watkins, Charles Simms, Thomas Helm, George Thompson, Isaac Coles, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Christopher Robertson, William Armistead, James Madison, Cuthbert Bullitt, George Lee Turberville, Henry Lee, jun. Joseph Prentis, and Nathaniel Nelson.

*Ordered*, That a writ issue for the election of a delegate to serve in the present General Assembly for the county of Prince William, in the room of Arthur Lee, Esq. disqualified by accepting an office of profit in the service of the United States.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Privileges and Elections to inquire into the eligibility of Mr. Archibald Stuart, a member returned to serve in this House for the county of Botetourt, who it is suggested, was a non-resident and no freeholder of the said county, at the time of his election.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Charles Simms be added to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, Commerce, and Courts of Justice.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors be directed to liquidate and settle all the just claims of officers and soldiers, or their legal representatives, that shall be presented to them on or before the first day of September next; and that they grant certificates as usual, for what shall be found due to them.

And the said resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of William Griffin, late sheriff of King and Queen county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that one of his deputies, who has made a considerable progress in the collection of the taxes for the year 1783, died before he had completed the same, and left a considerable sum of money, which was embezzled or lost; that in consequence of this, he was unable to make the necessary payments into the treasury in time, and the solicitor has obtained a judgment for the balance due from him; and praying that the interest and damages thereon may be remitted, and a further time allowed him to pay the principal.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates, to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year from the first Monday in the present month; also, of a Judge of the General Court; also, of a chief justice for the western district; and of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" and on the several printed bills contained in the revised code as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, November 2, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

An engrossed bill, "for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, praying that the inspection of tobacco may be removed from Rust's warehouse to the lands of Catesby Jones, in the town of Kinsale and county of Westmoreland, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of Bedford and Henry, praying that so much of the former county as lies south of Staunton river, may be added to that part of the said county of Henry, lying within a line to be run from the head of Shooting Creek to the west end of Turkey-cock mountain, thence along the top of the said mountain, to intersect the line dividing the counties of Pittsylvania and Henry, thence along that line to the mouth of Black-water river, and formed into a distinct county, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Henry, in opposition thereto, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Landon Carter, praying that he may be empowered to lay off a town on his lands at Norman's Ford in the county of Fauquier, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Nicholas Lewis, praying that a ferry may be established from his lands in the county of Albemarle across the Rivanna river, to the lands of Martin Key, on the opposite shore, is reasonable.

The 1st resolution being again read was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th resolutions were severally again read, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d, 4th and 5th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Thomas Goode, was presented to the House, and read; praying that compensation may be made him for the loss of a horse and furniture, which was taken from him by the British troops, when he was patrolling near their lines, in the year 1781.

Also, a petition of Gen. Charles Harrison; setting forth, that in the year 1780, he received a sum of money from the public, for the purpose of recruiting men, the vouchers for the proper disbursements of which he unfortunately lost, and praying that the auditors may be directed to receive his affidavit as a sufficient voucher for such disbursements.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Goochland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen and considered the engrossed bill published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," and wholly disapprove of the same, as repugnant to the Bill of Rights, contrary to the principles of equal justice, and detrimental to the interest of religion; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Westmoreland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince Edward, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a memorial and remonstrance of the ministers and lay representatives of the Presbyterian Church in Virginia, assembled in convention, to the same effect; and farther praying that the act of the last session of Assembly, "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church," may be repealed or amended so far as it authorises and directs the regulation of spiritual concerns, and the securing to that church, the churches, glebes, &c. procured at the expense of the whole community; which they consider as unjust and contrary to the great principles of equal religious freedom.



Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the county of Westmoreland, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" which was published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, for the consideration of the people, may be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Westmoreland, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the reception of commutables in payment of the public taxes, will be of great ease and relief to the people; and praying that tobacco may be made a commutable in discharge of the same.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions, memorial, and remonstrance, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of John Downer, was presented to the House, and read; praying that a public ferry may be established across the Monongalia river, from his land in Morgantown, to the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of John Pettijohn; praying that he may be authorised to keep a public ferry across the Tyger Valley river, from his land upon the road leading from Morgantown to Clarksburg, to the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said counties; praying that the inspection of tobacco at Rust's warehouse, may be removed to the town of Kinsale.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the eligibility of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. one of the members returned to serve in this House for the county of Surry, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of the said Benjamin Harrison, that previous to the invasion of Arnold in this State, he was a resident of the county of Charles City, from whence he was compelled to remove himself and family to some place of safety; that the invasion of this State by Cornwallis soon after took place, by which means his house and furniture were so damaged, that he did not return thither until January last; that he was elected Chief Magistrate in November 1781, and resigned that office on the 29th of November 1784; that he was a candidate for, and elected a representative of the said county of Charles City on the 30th of the same month; that he resided in the county of Charles City from January last to the 7th of April, the day after the election in the county of Charles City, for which he was a candidate; that on the 7th or 8th of April he carried his bed and some furniture to the county of Surry, wherein he engaged his rooms and board for twelve months; that he carried thither a servant and horses, leaving the rest of his family in Charles City, and entered the said servant and horses, with himself, among the taxables of the said county of Surry before the 10th of April; that they were not entered in the said county of Charles City, but would have been had it been required of him before his removal to Surry, though no person to his knowledge was appointed in Charles City to take the list of taxables before his removal; that on the 6th of April, the day of the election in Charles City, at which he was a candidate, and after the poll was closed, he declared his resolution of removing immediately to the county of Surry, and thereupon wrote his resignation as a vestryman in the county of Charles City, which was accepted, and Mr. Turner Southall chosen in his stead; that he refused to accept the commission of county lieutenant of Charles City, previous to the election in Surry, and at the time of such refusal, informed the Governor that he did not consider himself as a resident of Charles City, nor would accept of any office, either civil or military therein; that the election in the county of Surry was on the 4th Tuesday in April, being court day; that he is, and has been for many years a freeholder in the county of Surry; that he contributes towards the support of a minister therein; that he has frequently, since his election in the said county of Surry, attended several public meetings to know the sentiments of his constituents; and that he was unanimously elected by the vestry in Surry on the 15th of October last, to represent them in the convention of the clergy and laymen.

*Resolved,* that it is the opinion of this committee, That the residence of the said Benjamin Harrison, in the county of Surry on the day of election, is not such a residence as is required by the spirit and meaning of the Constitution, and therefore he was ineligible.

And the said report and resolution being again read were, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House immediately.

The House accordingly, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said report and resolution; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said report and resolution.

A petition of Robert Taylor of the borough of Norfolk, merchant, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that during the last summer he imported a considerable quantity of rum and salt, for which the payment of duties was secured in the usual manner; that on the 24th day of September last a severe gale of wind raised the tide to so great a height, that he lost a considerable quantity of each of these articles; and praying that the duties thereupon may be remitted.



*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the 1st Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; on the bill "to amend the act, concerning pensioners, and on the printed bills contained in the report of the committee of revisors as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 3, 1785.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, praying that the inspection of tobacco may be removed from Rust's warehouse to the lands of Catesby Jones, in the town of Kinsale and county of Westmoreland, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said counties of Westmoreland, Richmond and Northumberland, in opposition thereto, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Pettijohn, praying that a ferry may be established from his land on Tyger Valley river, across the same to the opposite shore, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 3d resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Catesby Jones, clerk of Northumberland county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that his father had been clerk of the court of the said county for near thirty years, and in the year 1778 resigned to the petitioner, with the consent and approbation of the court; that he then was, and still is, a resident of the county of Westmoreland, but will be compelled, by the operation of the late act of Assembly, either to relinquish his clerkship, or change his abode; and praying that the said act may be amended, and that he may be permitted to retain his office, without removing into the county.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the solicitor general, enclosing a list of the sheriffs commissioned in the year 1784, and of those now in commission; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of George Ralls, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in January 1777, he was appointed master of the schooner Jenny, a trading vessel, in the service of the United States, and was soon after taken prisoner by a British ship of war, and confined in prison at Plymouth, in England, from whence he returned to Virginia, in February 1779; that he has since received the amount of his pay in paper money, without any allowance for the depreciation thereupon; and praying that the auditors may be directed to grant him certificates therefor.

Also, a petition of John Starke, sen.; setting forth, that in the year 1781, when the State was invaded by the British army, the records of the Superior Courts were removed from Richmond, and deposited at his house as a place of safety; that he has great reason to believe that he was treated with uncommon severity upon this account by the enemy, who soon after encamped near his plantation, and plundered him of property to a considerable value; and praying that some compensation may be made to him for the injuries he sustained, in consequence of his endeavor to preserve the records, which were of so much importance to the Commonwealth in general.

Also, a petition of Joseph Starke; praying that he may receive compensation for the loss of a horse, which was taken from him by the British troops, in the year 1781.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the proprietors of Robert Bolling's warehouse, and sundry other persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the inspection of tobacco may be removed from the said warehouse, to the land of the proprietors, adjoining Bolling's and Tabb's mill.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition and remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have considered the bill published by order of the House of Delegates, at their last session, "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" and are of opi-

nion, that it is repugnant to the Bill of Rights, contrary to equal justice, and dangerous to the interest of religion; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition and remonstrance of the committee of sundry Baptist associations, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Orange, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have seen and approve of the bill published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" and praying that the same may be enacted into a law.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions and remonstrances be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Braxton presented, according to order, a bill "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the report and resolution from the committee of Privileges and Elections, respecting the eligibility of Benjamin Harrison, Esq.; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed thereto, with an amendment; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the said report and resolution, as amended, were again read, and are as followeth:

The committee of Privileges and Elections, have according to order, inquired into the eligibility of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. one of the members returned to serve in this House, for the county of Surry; and it appears to your committee, from the information of the said Benjamin Harrison, that previous to the invasion of Arnold in this State, he was a resident of the county of Charles City, from whence he was compelled to remove himself and family to some place of safety; that the invasion of this State by Lord Cornwallis soon after took place, by which means his house and furniture were so damaged, that he did not return thither until January last; that he was elected Chief Magistrate in November 1781, and resigned that office on the 29th of November 1784; that he was a candidate for, and elected a representative of the said county of Charles City, on the 30th of the same month; that he resided in the county of Charles City from January last to the 7th of April, the day after the election in the county of Charles City, for which he was a candidate; that on the 7th or 8th of April, he carried his bed and some furniture to the county of Surry, wherein he engaged his rooms and board for twelve months; that he carried thither a servant and horses, leaving the rest of his family in Charles City, and entered the said servant and horses, with himself, among the taxables of the said county of Surry, before the 10th of April; that they were not entered in the said county of Charles City, but would have been, had it been required of him before his removal to Surry, though no person, to his knowledge, was appointed in Charles City to take the list of taxables before his removal; that on the 6th of April, the day of election in Charles City, at which he was a candidate, and after the poll was closed, he declared his resolution of removing immediately to the county of Surry, and thereupon wrote his resignation as a vestry man in the county of Charles City, which was accepted, and Mr. Turner Southall chosen in his stead; that he refused to accept the commission of county lieutenant of Charles City previous to the election in Surry, and at the time of such refusal, informed the Governor, that he did not consider himself as a resident of Charles City, nor would he accept of any office, either civil or military, therein; that the election in the county of Surry was on the 4th Tuesday in April, being court day; that he is, and has been for many years, a freeholder in the said county of Surry; that he contributes towards the support of a minister therein; that he has, frequently, since his election in the said county of Surry, attended several public meetings, to know the sentiments of his constituents; and that he was unanimously elected by the vestry in Surry, on the 15th of October last, to represent them in the convention of the clergy and laymen.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the election of Benjamin Harrison, Esq. returned a member for the county of Surry, is legal.

And the said report and resolution, as amended, being read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ayes, 57.

Noes, 49.

On a motion made by Mr. Goodall, and seconded by Mr. Norvell, ordered that the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Joshua Fry, Samuel Sherwin, Zachariah Johnston, Robert Clarke, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Daniel, Edmund Read, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Watkins, Charles Simms, David Steward, George Thompson, Elias Wills, Thomas Mann Randolph, Isaac Coles, Isaac Vanmeter, Garland Anderson, John Mayo, jun. John Rentfro, Thomas Moore, William Thornton, James Ball, jun. Richard Bland Lee, William White, Thomas Johnson, Christopher Robertson, Samuel Garland, Benjamin Logan, Lewis Burwell, Thomas Pettus, John Gordon, David Bradford, James Madison, Charles Porter, William Harrison, Benjamin Lanford, William Ronald, William Mayo, Cuthbert Bullitt, George Lee Turberville, John Hopkins, Gavin Hamilton, Carter Bassett Harrison, Wilson Cary, Richard Lee, Henry Lee, jun. Nathaniel Nelson and James Innes.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, Wilson Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston,



Samuel Jordan Cabell, Nicholas Bowyer, John Trigg, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Clarke, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, Henry Southall, Joseph Jones, Worlick Westwood, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Thomas Helm, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, John Lucas, Edmund Wilkins, Parke Goodall, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Dellaid, William Norvell, William Walker, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, William Curtis, William Pettijohn, David Scott, William Armistead, Willis Wilson, Griffin Stith, John Clarke, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, Edmund Ruffin, jun. Williamson Bell, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Taylor, Thomas Ridley, John Whitaker Willis, William Garrard, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs and Joseph Prentis.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the 1st Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; on the bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners;'" and on the printed bills contained in the report of the committee of revisors, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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### FRIDAY, November 4, 1785.

A bill, "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Landon Carter, in the county of Fauquier;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to postpone the collection of the tax for the year 1785;" and that Messrs. Bibb, Claiborne, Eggleston, Braxton, William White, Ronald, and John Bowyer, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, some years ago a post was established at the Point of Fork, on the lands of Mr. David Ross, and sundry houses built thereon by the public, for the reception of arms, ammunition and other stores; and there having been no agreement entered into, nor satisfaction made to the said proprietor for the use of his lands, timber, fire wood, and other articles of his property applied to the use of the said establishment;

*Resolved*, That the Executive be authorised to settle with the said David Ross, and adjust and pay all reasonable claims against the State respecting the said post, and make such an agreement with him for the time to come, as they shall think proper.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of the merchants, traders and other inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the prohibition laid by Great Britain on the trade to the West Indies, and the almost total monopoly of the other branches of trade by foreigners, has produced great distress to the petitioners, and much injury to the trade of the Commonwealth; that the rapid decrease of American bottoms, the total stop to ship building, and nursery of American seamen occasioned thereby, threatens the most alarming consequences unless timely averted, by the wisdom of the Legislature; and praying that a similar prohibition or restriction may be imposed on the British trade from the West Indies to this Commonwealth; that suitable encouragement be offered to the American merchants; and that other and general relief be given to the premises as shall seem most expedient to the Legislature.

Also, a petition of the merchants, traders and other inhabitants of the town of Suffolk and county of Nansemond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect; and also, praying that effectual measures may be taken to preclude foreigners from the benefit of our coasting trade and inland navigation; and to prevent the emigration to this Commonwealth of those offensive characters that stand excluded by treaty as well as by law of the State.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.



*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Evans, praying that a ferry may be established from his land across Monongalia river, to the mouth of Dicker's creek, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Downer, praying that a ferry may be established from his land in Morgantown, across Monongalia river to the opposite shore, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Michael Karns, praying that a ferry may be established from his land across Monongalia river, at the mouth of Dicker's creek, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of William Nall, sheriff of Rockingham county, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that from a variety of circumstances which he could neither foresee nor prevent, he has been unable to begin his collection of the public taxes for the present year; and praying that the time of payment into the treasury, may be postponed.

Also, a petition of Richard Taylor, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established upon his land in the county of Prince George, near the town of Petersburg.

Also, a petition of John Turberville, praying that he may be authorised to keep a public ferry from his land in the county of Fairfax, across the river Potomac to the opposite shore.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the Sieur Chevallie, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has a liquidated claim against the State, founded upon two bills of exchange drawn upon the commercial agent of this State, by Mr. Beaumarchais's agent; that he has received only a part of one of his demands; and praying that provision may be made for the immediate payment of the balance.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Archer, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the year 1781, when this country was invaded by the British troops, the petitioner was despatched from the Point of Fork by Baron Steuben, with orders to proceed to Charlottesville, to cause the public stores to be removed from thence to a place of more security; that the petitioner arrived at Charlottesville in the morning of the same day that the enemy reached it, and immediately proceeded to the removal of the public stores there; that whilst engaged in that business he was surrounded by a party of British troops, and in endeavoring to make his escape from them, was very dangerously wounded, and had a very valuable horse taken from him, which he has never since recovered.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said John Archer, praying to be paid by the public for the loss of his said horse, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed and paid the sum of 70*l*. for the same, to be charged to the continent in account with this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Willis be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances; Messrs. John Bowyer, Hancock, and Andrew Moore, to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Courts of Justice; and Mr. Ronald, to the committee of Commerce.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the 1st Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court; also, of a chief justice for the western district; also, of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the printed bills contained in the report of the committee of Revisors, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, November 5, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

A bill, "for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing a town on the lands of Landon Carter, in the county of Fauquier;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Gen. Charles Harrison, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Gen. Charles Harrison, setting forth, that in the year 1780, he drew from the treasury of this State, paper money to the amount of 804*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* specie, for the purpose of recruiting his regiment; that the said sum of money was applied to the purpose for which it was drawn, and vouchers taken for the same, all which were unfortunately destroyed at the defeat of General Gates; that the auditors of public accounts refused to admit his oath, as to the disbursements of the said sum of money; and praying that they may be directed to receive the affidavit as a sufficient voucher for the said disbursement, is reasonable.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "for reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendment, be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Richard Taylor, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established on his land, on Appomattox river, in the county of Prince George, below and adjoining the town of Petersburg, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry persons, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established on the land of Alexander Glass Strachan, in the town of Petersburg, be rejected.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen and duly considered the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," printed for public consideration, and wholly disapprove of the same, as repugnant to good policy, public justice, and the principles of religious freedom; and praying that the same may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of the merchants, traders, and other inhabitants of the town of Portsmouth, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the present deplorable state of trade, occasioned by the restrictions and policy of the British acts of navigation, has caused great and general distress, and threatens total ruin and decay to the several branches of commerce, unless timely prevented by the wisdom of the Legislature; and praying that certain restrictive acts may be imposed on the British trade, or other more adequate and effectual measures adopted for relief therein.

Also, a petition of the merchants, traders, and other inhabitants of the town of Alexandria, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Daniel and Edmunds of Sussex, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday fortnight; and Mr. Moore Riddick, for the remainder of the session.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing a letter from the Virginia delegates to Congress, containing sundry resolutions of that body; a letter from the Secretary of Foreign Affairs; and one from the board of treasury of the United States; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.



A petition of William Bryce, was presented to the House, and read; praying that he may be paid for a valuable horse, the property of the petitioner, which was stolen from Col. Dick, when he was in the service of the public, under the command of the Marquis de la Fayette.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Mayo, jun. was presented to the House, and read; praying that he may be authorised to erect and keep a toll bridge across James river between the towns of Richmond and Manchester.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the public printer strike immediately, two hundred copies of the requisitions of Congress which have been transmitted to the House during the present session, for the use of the members of the General Assembly.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the act, concerning pensioners;" to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth; and on the printed bills contained in the Revised Code, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

### MONDAY, November 7, 1785.

Several other members having taken the oaths required by law, took their seats in the House.

An engrossed bill, "for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Robert Clarke do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town on the lands of Landon Carter in the county of Fauquier, was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town on the lands of Landon Carter, in the county of Fauquier."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That during the continuance of the present session, it be a standing order of the House, that Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, in each week, be set apart and appropriated to the consideration of the Revised Code in such manner, that no business be introduced, taken up, or considered, after 12 o'clock of the day, other than the bills contained in the said Revised Code, or such other as respects the interest of the Commonwealth at large, or messages from the Executive, or the Senate.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to give the assent of the State to a general regulation of the commerce of the United States, under certain qualifications.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Prentis, Tyler, Madison, Henry Lee, Meriwether Smith, Braxton, Ronald, Innis and Bullitt, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Jones be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, Propositions and Grievances, and Courts of Justice; Mr. Turberville to the committee of Commerce; Mr. Norvell to the committee of Claims; and Messrs. Thurston and Corbin to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances.



Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the petition of General Charles Harrison was recommended, that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the year 1780, the petitioner drew from the treasury of this State, 118,964 paper dollars, for the purpose of recruiting his regiment; which sum would enlist about 158 men.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Capt. Anthony Singleton, that he, together with several officers of the petitioner's regiment, drew monies from the pay-master of the said regiment for the recruiting service, with which they enlisted 104 men, who joined the said regiment; that the said recruiting business was continued, and he believes, with some success, having understood that several other recruits were enlisted by different officers; that he advanced to his company of men about three months' pay, amounting to about 900 dollars.

*Resolved*, That the petition of the said Gen. Charles Harrison, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed to receive his affidavit to the disbursement of the said sum of 118,964 dollars, having lost the vouchers for the same, at the defeat of General Gates, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Turberville, praying that a ferry may be established from his land in the county of Fairfax, across Potomac river to the opposite shore, in the State of Maryland, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Tyler, jun. praying that all the estate, both real and personal, of John Tyler, his brother, who was lately condemned and executed for the murder of Joseph Tyler, may be vested in the petitioner, with power to convey 155 acres of his land to the legal representatives of the said Joseph Tyler, in conformity to a contract made between John Tyler and the said Joseph Tyler, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Pittsylvania, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they greatly disapprove of a general assessment for the support of religion, as contrary to every maxim of sound policy; and praying that religious liberty may be preserved to them, and no act passed in favor of an assessment or establishment.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the county of Pittsylvania, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the engrossed bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" which was published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, for the consideration of the people, may be enacted into a law.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Muscoe Livingston, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has seen with regret, for some time past, the removal of the inhabitants of the lower parts of Virginia into the Western country; and that notwithstanding the great advantages promised by the late revolution to emigrants from Europe, that the number is small indeed: that convinced that the most solid advantages would result to the State, if a considerable number of the yeomen and manufacturers of the various countries of Europe, could be persuaded to remove to Virginia, he is willing to devote his whole fortune and attention to effect it; *Provided*, he can have for a certain term of years, the exclusive right of importing emigrants under certain restrictions; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry merchants and other inhabitants of the city of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the inspection of tobacco at Byrd's warehouse within the said city, may be removed to or near Rockett's landing.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Suffolk, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that a small tract of land adjoining the same may be added thereto, and laid off into lots and streets.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year from the first Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the act, concerning pensioners;" "to provide for the poor

of the several counties within this Commonwealth ;” and on the printed bills contained in the Revised Code, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read ;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

TUESDAY, November 8, 1785.

A bill, “for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust’s warehouse ;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to discontinue the town of Walkertown ;” and that Messrs. Thomas Moore and Henry Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Mr. George Thompson, enclosing the report of the commissioners appointed by the Executive, pursuant to a resolution of the last Assembly, to survey James river from Lynch’s ferry upwards, and to report the practicability of extending the navigation thereof ; which was read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Commerce.

A petition of John Otey and James Turner, commissioners of the land tax for the county of Bedford, was presented to the House, and read ; setting forth, that the auditors of public accounts have refused to make them any allowance for assessing any of the lands in the said county, except those contained in grants lately issued from the register’s office ; alleging that they are not authorised by law so to do ; and praying that they may be directed to make them the same allowance for assessing all other lands, as for the last mentioned service.

Also, a petition of the ministers and elders of the German Lutheran Church in the borough of Winchester ; praying that they may be authorised to raise by way of lottery, a sum of money not exceeding 500*l.* for the purpose of finishing a church belonging to the said society.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, whose names are thereunto subscribed ; praying that the inspection of tobacco at Shepherd’s warehouse in the said county, may be revived.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances ; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Richard Bray and John Kidd, late inspectors of tobacco at Shepherd’s warehouse in King and Queen county, was presented to the House, and read ; praying that they may be paid for two hogsheads of tobacco, which were stolen from the said warehouse in the month of May last.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims ; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read ; praying that the trustees appointed to receive subscriptions for the purpose of improving the navigation of James river, may be authorised to receive them for any sum not equal to a full share ; and that the said sums may be applied towards clearing the said river from Lynch’s ferry upwards ; that such subscribers may also have the same privileges with others, in proportion to the amount of the sums respectively contributed by them.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce ; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of George Robertson, late sheriff of the county of Chesterfield, was presented to the House, and read ; praying that the interest and damages upon a judgment obtained against him for the balance of the public taxes, due from the said county for the year 1782, may be remitted.

Also, a petition of Vivion Brooking, late sheriff of the county of Amelia, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed ; setting forth, that they are firmly persuaded, that it is contrary to the fundamental principles of the christian religion, to keep so considerable a number of our fellow creatures, the negroes in this State, in slavery ; that it is also an express violation of the principles upon which our government is founded ; and that a general emancipation of them, under certain restrictions, would greatly contribute to strengthen it, by attaching them by the ties of interest and gratitude, to its support ; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Mecklenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereto ; and praying that the act, “empowering the owners of slaves to emancipate them ;” may be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions do severally lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the printed bills contained in the Revised Code, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice ; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and made some progress therein ; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said Revised Code.



Mr. Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as follows:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Mayo, jun. praying that an act may pass, authorising him to erect a toll bridge across James river, between the towns of Richmond and Manchester, is reasonable.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Griffin, late sheriff of the county of King and Queen; praying that the damages on a judgment obtained against him in the General Court, for the balance of taxes due in the year 1783, may be remitted, is reasonable; upon proviso, that the principal, interest and cost, be paid on or before the 8th day of May next.*

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That all farther proceedings on the said judgment be stayed until the 8th day of May next.*

The 1st resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d and 3d resolutions being severally again read were, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution respecting the adjustment of the claims of officers and soldiers, which lay on the table; and the same being twice read, was amended; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, That the auditors be directed to liquidate and settle all the just claims of officers and soldiers, and those of the staff department, who have heretofore been recognised by law or their legal representatives, that shall be presented to them on or before the 1st day of September next; and that they grant certificates as usual for what shall be found due thereon, the same having been first allowed by the commissioners heretofore appointed for examining the said claims.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to vest certain lots, in the town of York, in trustees, for the purpose of a Grammar School;" and that Messrs. Prentis, Ronald, Henry Lee, and Carrington, do prepare and bring in the same.*

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved, That the commissioners appointed by act of Assembly to dispose of certain public lands and other public property in and near the city of Richmond, be directed to lay before the General Assembly a state of the monies received for the sale of such property, and the amount of the expenditures already made, the contracts entered into, and subscriptions received, for the purposes of carrying into effect "an act for the removal of the Seat of Government;" and also, to state the probable expenses that may be incurred by the public in carrying that act into execution.*

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered, That Messrs. White, Henry Lee, and Thruston, be added to the committee of Commerce; Mr. Trigg, to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances; and Mr. Garland Anderson, to the committees of Claims, Propositions and Grievances, and Commerce.*

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, being read;

*Ordered, That the same be put off till Friday next.*

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, November 9, 1785.

A bill, "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers," was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

Mr. Richard Lee presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, for establishing the town of Walkertown;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, to whom the bill "for reviving and continuing the act, for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service," was recommitted, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.*

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order,



had under their consideration the petition of Burditt Ashton, to them referred; and had agreed to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Burditt Ashton, praying that an act may pass to authorise the sale of a tract of land, the property of his infant daughter, which descended to her by the death of her mother, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of James Blair, deceased, be rejected.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the proprietors of Robert Bolling's warehouse, and others, praying that the inspection of tobacco may be removed from thence, and established on the lands of the proprietors, adjoining to Bolling and Tabb's mill, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the inspectors of Petersburg warehouse, as prays that their salaries may be increased, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays for a further allowance for the past year, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Zackquill Morgan; praying that an act may pass for establishing a town on his land, whereon the courthouse of Monongalia county stands, is reasonable.

The 1st, 3d and 4th resolutions, being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 4th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for vesting the estate of John Tyler, deceased, in William Tyler, the younger;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the more effectual prevention of frauds in the collection of the public revenue;" and that Messrs. Madison, Tyler, Strother, Ronald, White, Braxton, Underwood and Thruston, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Benjamin Johnson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he was appointed a deputy surveyor in the county of Yohogania, and conducted the business of the surveyor's office until some time in the year 1782, when the principal, Colonel Crawford, was killed by the Indians, and he then received a commission for the purpose of closing the business which was begun before Col. Crawford's death, but has been prevented from finishing the same by sundry inhabitants of the said county, who allege that his proceedings are invalid; and praying that his conduct may be scrutinized, and that an act may be passed, if necessary, for legalizing the same.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John, Jacob, and Benjamin Philips, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that their brother Matthew Philips, died in the year 1778, and devised his whole estate to his wife Rachel Philips, who also died a few days after without heirs, whereby the estate is become escheated to the Commonwealth; and praying that the same may be vested in them.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Several petitions of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Mecklenburg, Amelia and Brunswick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, were presented to the House, and read; praying that the engrossed bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," which was published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the said bill may be enacted into a law.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said Revised Code.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, November 10, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "for vesting the whole estate of John Tyler, deceased, in William Tyler, the younger;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Bullitt, Carrington, Richard Bland Lee, John Mayo and Carter Bassett Harrison.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of King and Queen, praying that the inspection of tobacco at Shepherd's warehouse, in the said county, may be revived and established, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said inspection ought to be revived for the term of two years, and no longer.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "torepeal the act of Assembly, establishing the town of Walkertown;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said Code.

A petition of Thomas Nicolson and William Prentiss, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1784, they contracted with the Executive to print a revival of the laws, from the year 1768 to the spring of 1783; that when they had made a considerable progress in the business, their printing office was burnt by accident, together with the sheets they had completed, and a large quantity of paper they had purchased for the purpose; and praying that they may receive some compensation for their trouble and expense; and also for extending the revival, which they have now completed beyond the time contracted for.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Nansemond, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that a part of the said county, agreeably to the bounds therein mentioned, may be added to the county of Southampton.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the said county may be divided into two distinct counties, agreeably to the bounds therein expressed.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matters thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the members of the Presbyterian church, near Otter Peaks, in the county of Bedford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the ruling members of the said church may be established a body politic and corporate, and that sundry slaves, the property of the said church, and their increase, may be vested in the said elders, for the use of the said church forever; also, praying that no assessment may ever be imposed upon them for the purposes of religion.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Middlesex, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the bill published by order of the House of Delegates, at their last session, "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amelia, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition of sundry persons, which was presented on Tuesday last, praying for a general emancipation of slaves.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Brunswick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Pittsylvania, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Halifax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Mary Ford, widow of John Ford, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1778, three negro slaves belonging to the petitioner, were executed for the murder of her husband, and valued by the court of Amelia county, in paper currency, which, when reduced to specie by the scale of depreciation, is far short of the value of the said slaves, and praying that the deficiency may be paid to her.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

A petition of Michael Ocheltree, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the treasurer may be directed to pay immediately, the amount of the warrant he has received from the auditors of public accounts, for a valuable slave, who was executed for felony, pursuant to the sentence of the court of Botetourt county.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Bibb presented, according to order, a bill "to postpone the collection of the tax for the year 1785;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Pickett be added to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, Claims and Commerce.

On a motion made,

The House proceeded to consider the petition of sundry persons presented on Tuesday last, which lay on the table, praying for a general emancipation of slaves, and the same being read;

A motion was made, and the question being put, to reject the said petition,

It passed in the affirmative, *nemine contra dicente*.

*Resolved*, That the said petition be rejected.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### FRIDAY, November 11, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal the act of Assembly, 'for establishing the town of Walkertown,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, to repeal the act of Assembly, 'for establishing the town of Walkertown.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to postpone the collection of the tax for the year 1785;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances, and Commerce.

A petition of Benjamin Bucktrout, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1777, he engaged in the service of the public, as purveyor to the hospitals, and continued in that department until the latter end of the following year; and praying that the auditors may be directed to liquidate his accounts, and grant him certificates for the balance that shall appear to be due to him.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the said petition be referred to the consideration of a committee,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the petition be rejected.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of William Boyce, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Boyce, setting forth, that in the year 1781, he acted as a major in a body of light infantry, commanded by Colonel Alexander Dick; that whilst in that service, Colonel Dick was ordered upon some particular duty by the Marquis de la Fayette, the execution of which, required a very good horse, which the petitioner being possessed of, Colonel Dick insisted upon the loan of him; that the said horse was accordingly delivered to Colonel Dick, for the purpose aforesaid, from whom he was stolen; and praying to be paid by the public the value of the said horse, be rejected.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing sundry letters from the delegates of this State in Congress, the secretary of Congress, the solicitor general, and General Washington, which were read.

*Ordered*, That the letters from the delegates in Congress, be referred to the committee appointed to inquire into and report the progress made in the settlement of the accounts of this State with the United States.



*Ordered*, That the letter from General Washington, be referred to Messrs. Tyler, Madison, Bullitt, Matthews, Innes, Richard Bland Lee, Braxton, Prentis, Simms, Smith, Stuart, and Page.

*Ordered*, That the rest of the said letters and papers do lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to authorise the delegates of this State in Congress, to assent to a general regulation of the commerce of the United States by Congress under certain restrictions, be discharged therefrom; and that Messrs. Prentis, Tyler, Madison, Henry Lee, Meriwether Smith, Braxton, Ronald, Innes and Bullitt, do draught and report instructions to the delegates of this State in Congress, pursuant thereto.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the act, entitled "an act, to revive and amend an act, 'for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,'" ought to be amended.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Prentis, Ronald, Tyler, Madison, Page, Corbin, Thomas Smith, Bibb, Cropper, Smith, Parramore, Matthews, Walke, Zachariah Johnston, Strother, Bullitt, Hawes and Thompson, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for punishing certain offences and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee of Commerce, to whom the report of the commissioners appointed by the Executive, pursuant to a resolution of the last Assembly, to survey James river from Lynch's ferry upwards, was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the auditors of public accounts settle the accounts of the said commissioners, and issue their warrants on the treasury for the payment of the sum due them; to be paid out of any money in the treasurer's hands.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Muscoe Livingston to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Muscoe Livingston, praying that an exclusive privilege may be granted him of importing manufacturers and yeomen-redemptioners not being convicts into this State, be rejected.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year from the first Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" also, "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, November 12, 1785.

A petition of George Taylor, James Taylor and Joseph Jones, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by an act of Assembly, passed in the year 1777, they, with the late Col. Fielding Lewis, were appointed trustees of the sale of the lands of Col. John Thornton of the county of Caroline; that they have executed the trust reposed in them, by selling the lands; but were prevented by a variety of circumstances, from receiving the purchase

money and applying it agreeably to the directions of the said act, until the paper currency had considerably depreciated, and that they at length deposited it in the treasury by virtue of the act for funding the paper money; and praying that an act may pass appointing commissioners to settle their accounts and authorising them to assign the securities in their hands to the persons entitled to them; and that they may be entirely discharged from the said trust.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the Sieur Chevallie, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that there is due to the petitioner from this State, a liquidated balance in money, amounting to 416*l.* 5*s.* and also a claim of 46,000*l.* of nett merchantable tobacco, founded on two accepted bills drawn by Mr. De Francy, late agent of Mr. Beaumarchais.

It further appears to your committee, that funds are provided for the payment of the said money claim, but that no provision is made for the payment of the tobacco claim.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such parts of the said petition, as pray that the petitioner may receive immediate payment of the said sum of 416*l.* 5*s.*, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the said petition as pray that funds may be provided for the payment of the petitioner's tobacco claim, is reasonable.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Carter H. Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Nall, sheriff of the county of Rockingham, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. John Hopkins, that no person would undertake the collection of the taxes in the said county for the year 1784; and that the petitioner qualified as sheriff of the said county, at August court last.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Gawin Hamilton, that on the first day of this month, he was informed by the clerk of the court, that two magistrates in the said county had not then made returns of the titheables and taxable property, whereby he was prevented from making out the list required by law to be furnished the sheriff.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Nall, sheriff of the said county of Rockingham, praying that further time may be allowed him to collect the taxes of the said county for the years 1784 and 1785, is reasonable; and that he be allowed until the first day of August next, to complete such collection.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Henry Lee, Thornton and Gordon, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates.'"

The House proceeded to consider the resolution, authorising the Executive to settle a claim of David Ross against the public, which lay on the table; and the same being twice read, was amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Whereas, some years ago, a post was established at the Point of Fork, on the lands of David Ross, and sundry houses built thereon by the public, for the reception of arms, ammunition, and other stores, and there having been no agreement entered into, nor satisfaction made to the said proprietor for the use of his lands, timber, firewood, and other articles of his property applied to the use of the said establishment;

*Resolved*, That the Executive be authorised to settle with the said David Ross, and adjust and pay all reasonable claims against the State respecting the said post, and make such an agreement with him or any other person, for the time to come, as they shall think proper, for the support of the said establishment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thompson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday fortnight; and Messrs. Southall, and William Anderson, till Monday se'nnight.

A petition of John Fitch, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he has formed the model of a machine, which he conceives will be of great use in the navigation of rapid rivers and streams; and praying that a committee may be appointed to examine the principles thereof, and that he may be enabled by an advance of money from the public, to construct a boat for the purpose of making an experiment.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to Messrs. Madison, Page, Innes, Thruston, Eggleston and Braxton; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.



*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty;" and that Messrs. Matthews, Wilson, Sandford, Willis Riddick, and Walke, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5*l*. per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;" and that Messrs. Garrard, Ronald and Thompson, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do agree to proceed this day by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned. And then he withdrew.

A memorial of Thomas Prosser, Daniel Lawrence Hylton, William Macon and Elisha White, commissioners appointed by the courts of the counties of Henrico and Hanover, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that the main run of Chickahominy Swamp, has always been considered as a boundary between the said counties, but from its division in some places into small streams, it is difficult to ascertain which is the main run; and praying that commissioners may be appointed to examine the same, and mark a line between the said counties.

Also, a petition of Thomas Townsend Hooe, William Brown and Charles Simms, administrators of John Mills, deceased, and others, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that the said Mills died intestate, seized of a real and personal estate, and indebted to a considerable amount: That the administrators have sold all the personal estate, which, with the debts due to the intestate, will not be sufficient to discharge the debts due from him; and that his heir at law is a native of, and resident in the island of Great Britain; and praying that an act may pass authorising the administrators to sell the real estate, and apply the purchase money to the discharge of his debts.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "incorporating trustees for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle, in the county of Botetourt;" and that Messrs. Hancock, Stuart, Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Andrew Moore, and John Bowyer, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" and that Messrs. Madison, Tyler, and Meriwether Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Amherst, to them referred, praying that so much of an act of Assembly, as relates to the displacing of officers, and manner of appointing others, may be repealed, and the former militia officers continued; and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Amherst, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the act, "entitled an act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," as relates to the mode of displacing officers, and manner of appointing others, ought to be repealed; and that the officers who were displaced and removed from office pursuant thereto, ought to be reinstated and take precedency of rank agreeably to the dates of the commissions they severally held prior to the passing of the said recited acts, and vacancies supplied by appointment of the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, or recommendations from the respective county courts.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Several petitions of the members of sundry Presbyterian societies, whose names are thereunto subscribed, were presented to the House, and read; praying that the engrossed bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," may not be enacted into a law; and also, that the act passed at the last session, "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church," may be repealed, or amended.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress for one year, from the first Monday in the present month; also, of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Tuesday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners;" "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" and "to postpone the collection of the taxes for the year 1785," being read;



*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.  
And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

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MONDAY, November 14, 1785.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "authorising John Mayo the younger, to build a toll bridge across James river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, 'for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Stuart of Fairfax, presented, according to order, a bill "for giving farther time to the proprietors of lots in the town of Bath, to make improvements thereon;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of divers inhabitants of the town of Suffolk; praying that about sixteen acres of land contiguous to the said town, the property of John Granberry, may be annexed thereto; and that trustees may be appointed for the said town, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said town of Suffolk, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of Richard Evers Lee, administrator of Samuel Allyne, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a certain Andrew Sprowle, who was indebted to the deceased in a considerable sum, very early in the war joined the British troops: in consequence of which his whole estate was confiscated, and the money arising from the sale thereof deposited in the treasury; and praying that the treasurer may be directed to pay him the amount of the said debt.

Also, a petition of Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Walker; praying that the register may be directed to receive the surveys of sundry tracts of land on the western waters, and grant patents thereupon to those who have settled upon the same, under purchases from the Loyal and Greenbrier Companies; and that the county surveyors may be authorised to resurvey several small tracts of land, the plats and surveys of which were accidentally destroyed.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of John Moffett, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the execution of a judgment obtained against him as sheriff of the county of Fauquier, for the balance of the specific tax for the year 1782 and 1783, may be stayed until the first day of May next.

Also, a petition of James Hendricks; setting forth, that in the year 1781, in compliance with the earnest request of the quarter-master of the State, he purchased for the public service a number of horses, and was compelled from the great depreciation of the paper money, to agree to pay for the same in tobacco; that he was never able to procure from the quarter-master either money or tobacco to fulfil his engagements, and is now called upon in his individual capacity; and praying that he may be exonerated therefrom.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition and memorial of sundry merchants of the town of Fredericksburg, Falmouth and Port Royal, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that under the laws now in force, there is no provision for the relief of unfortunate and unsuccessful traders, whose persons and property are now subject to confinement and seizure by the first creditor who makes his demand; that they consider that justice and humanity require, that he, whose conduct has been irreproachable, and whose failure is owing to unavoidable accident, should be exempted from further prosecution, upon making an equal surrender and division of his property; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petition and memorial be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in North Carolina;" and that Messrs. Ronald, Coles, Madison, and Patteson. do prepare bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, be discharged from proceeding upon the memorial of the convention of the district of Kentucky; and that the same be referred to Messrs. Madison, Henry Lee, Bullitt, Ronald, Carrington, Alexander White, Corbin, Page, Meriwether Smith, and Prentis, that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen and duly considered the engrossed bill published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, "establishing a provision for the christian religion," and highly disapprove thereof as repugnant to equal religious liberty and the true interests of christianity; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, sundry memorials of the people called Quakers, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a remonstrance of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Surry, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have seen and highly approve of the bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" that they conceive it to be consistent with the principles of equal liberty, tending to promote the great interests of religion, and founded on the experience and practice of all christian nations; and praying that the said bill may be enacted into a law.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions, memorials and remonstrance be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled: an act, for regulating the appointment of delegates to Congress;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be "an act, to provide for the appointment of delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the first Monday in November next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee appointed to prepare instructions for the delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, that the committee had, according to order, prepared the same, and he read them in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

Whereas, the relative situation of the United States has been found on trial, to require uniformity in their commercial regulations, as the only effectual policy for obtaining in the ports of foreign nations, a stipulation of privileges, reciprocal to those enjoyed by the subjects of such nations in the ports of the United States; for preventing animosities, which cannot fail to arise among the several States from the interference of partial and separate regulations; and for deriving from commerce, such aids to the public revenue as it ought to contribute; and whereas, such uniformity can be best concerted and carried into effect by the federal councils, which, having been instituted for the purpose of managing the interests of the States, in cases which cannot so well be provided for, by measures individually pursued, ought to be invested with authority in this case, as being within the reason and policy of their institution;

*Resolved*, That the delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, be instructed to propose in Congress, a recommendation to the States in Union, to authorise that assembly to regulate their trade, and to collect a revenue therefrom, on the following principles, and under the following qualifications:

1st. That the United States in Congress assembled, be authorised to prohibit vessels belonging to any nation, which has no commercial treaty with the United States, from entering any of the ports thereof, or to impose any duties on such vessels and their cargoes which may be judged necessary: all such prohibitions and duties to be uniform throughout the United States, and the proceeds of the latter to be carried into the treasury of the State within which they shall accrue.

2d. That over and above any duties which may be so laid, the United States in Congress assembled, be authorised to collect in manner prescribed by an act "to provide certain and adequate funds for the payment of this State's quota of the debts contracted by the United States," an impost not exceeding five per centum ad valorem on all goods, wares and merchandizes whatsoever, imported into the United States from any foreign ports; such impost to be uniform as aforesaid, and to be carried to the treasury of the United States.

3d. That no State be at liberty to impose duties on any goods, wares or merchandizes, imported by land or by water from any other State, but may altogether prohibit the importation from any other State of any particular species or description of goods, wares or merchandize, of which the importation is at the same time prohibited from all other places whatsoever.

4th. That no act of Congress that may be authorised, as hereby proposed, shall be entered into by less than two thirds of the confederated States, nor be in force longer than \_\_\_\_\_ years, unless continued by a like proportion of votes within one year immediately preceding the expiration of the said period, or be revived in like manner after the expiration thereof; nor shall any impost whatsoever, be collected by virtue of the authority proposed in the second article, after the year 17 \_\_\_\_\_.

And the said instructions being read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That the public printer be directed to strike two hundred copies of the foregoing instructions, for the use of the members of the General Assembly.

Mr. Garrard presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, entitled, 'an act to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to postpone the collection of the tax for 1785;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight," with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bills, "to provide for the appointment of delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the first Monday in November next;" "for establishing a town on the lands of Landon Carter in the county of Fauquier;" "vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in trustees, to be sold for the benefit of his children;" "to repeal the act of Assembly 'for establishing the town of Walkertown;" "for the naturalization of the Marquis de la Fayette;" and "for reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, requesting the Governor to lay the proceedings of the Executive before the General Assembly; authorising the Governor to draw out of the public treasury money for the purpose of binding and distributing the revival of the laws now in force; directing the auditors to proceed in the liquidation of officers' and soldiers' accounts; authorising the Governor to draw on the treasurer for a sufficient sum of money for completing the statue of General Washington; directing the auditors to settle the accounts of the commissioners appointed to survey James river; and for instructing the delegates of this State in Congress to move for the appointment of a commissioner to settle the accounts of this State for defending the western country. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight;" and the same being read, was disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

A bill, "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act concerning pensioners;" "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" and "to amend the several acts concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

TUESDAY, November 15, 1785.

A bill, "authorising John Mayo the younger, to build a toll bridge across James River;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for giving further time to the proprietors of lots in the town of Bath, to make improvements thereon;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Simms, Matthews, Stewart of Botetourt, Wills, and Carter Bassett Harrison.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the auditors of public accounts, enclosing a statement of the national debt, which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.



Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham for the year 1784;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

4 Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution directing the auditors to receive the affidavit of General Charles Harrison, as a voucher for the disbursement of a sum of public money. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. William Watkins, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Nelson, Prentis, Briggs, Thornton, and Carter Bassett Harrison.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the town of Suffolk and county of Nansemond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the inspection of tobacco, which was formerly established in the said town, and which was discontinued in consequence of the destruction of the warehouses, may be revived.

Also, a petition of the common council of the town of Alexandria; praying that some lands adjacent to the said town, the property of individuals, may be annexed thereto, and laid off into lots and streets, agreeable to the bounds therein expressed, and in conformity to the original plan of the said town.

Also, a petition of David Griffin, clerk, in opposition thereto, so far as it respects the lands of the petitioner which are adjacent to the said town.

Also, a petition of the minister and vestry of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the parish of Fairfax, in the county of Fairfax; setting forth, that if the plan proposed by the common council of the town of Alexandria for enlarging the same should be adopted, the said parish will be deprived of a great part of a lot of land, which they now hold, and on which one of the parish churches is erected; and praying that the said lot may be excepted, and not subject to the regulations proposed by the said plan.

Also, a petition of John Harper, Charles Simms, Leven Powell and James Keith; in opposition to the said petition of the common council of the town of Alexandria.

Also, a petition of Henry Banks; praying that the treasurer may be directed to deliver to him sundry military certificates which he lodged in the treasury, for the purpose of procuring land warrants, after a resolution of the General Assembly had passed, which prohibited the farther issuing of such warrants.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of George Taylor and James Madison, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they, with several others, were appointed by two acts of Assembly passed before the late revolution, trustees to sell a large tract of land in the county of Orange, whereof Harry Beverley was seized in fee tail; that they have executed the trust reposed in them, by selling the lands and collecting part of the money, and applying it agreeably to the directions of the said act; and praying that commissioners may be appointed to examine their accounts, and make them a reasonable allowance for their trouble; and that they may be authorised to assign the securities now remaining in their hands, to the heir at law of the said Harry Beverley.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Alexander Wylly, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he performed the office of keeper of the seal, from the year 1777 to the year 1781, and has never received any reward for his services; and praying that some reasonable compensation may be made to him.

Also, a petition of John Roberts; setting forth, that in December 1778, he was appointed a lieutenant in the Illinois regiment, in which he continued till the month of March 1780; that he laid the pretensions of himself and company, to a bounty of lands, before the commissioners appointed to examine them, which were wholly refused by the said commissioners, without just cause; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thompson have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Saturday next, and Mr. Nicholas until Tuesday fortnight.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined an enrolled bill to them referred, and found it to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the said bill to the Senate, for their examination.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Montgomery, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have considered, as far as they are able, in all its consequences, a bill "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," published by order of the last Assembly for public consideration; that they highly disapprove thereof as impolitic, unjust and oppressive, and of dangerous influence on religion; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, members of the Presbyterian Church in Frederick county, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a memorial and remonstrance of sundry persons, citizens of the Commonwealth, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions, memorial and remonstrance, be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined an enrolled bill, and find it to be truly enrolled, and it is signed by their Speaker; and he delivered in the same. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker then signed the following enrolled bill:

“An act, to provide for the appointment of delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the 1st Monday in November next.”

The House then proceeded, according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of five delegates to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the 1st Monday in November next; and the members having prepared tickets with the names of the persons to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Madison, Wilkinson, Ronald, Alexander White, Turberville and Matthews, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew, and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Richard Henry Lee, William Grayson, James Monroe, Edward Carrington and Henry Lee, jun. Esquires.

The House then proceeded, in the same manner, to the choice of a member of the Privy Council or Council of State, in the room of William Nelson, jun. Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Tyler, Madison and Page, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Carter Braxton, Esq.

The House then proceeded in the same manner, to the choice of a judge of the General Court, in the room of Bartholomew Dandridge, Esq. deceased; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Tyler and Read, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Henry Tazewell, Esq.

The House then proceeded, in the same manner, to the choice of a chief justice for the western district, in the room of Cyrus Griffin, Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. James Garrard, John Bowyer and Alexander White, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of George Muter, Esq.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee to whom was referred the petition of John Fitch, be discharged from farther proceeding thereon.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill “authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury, by weight. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “for securing to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time;” and that Messrs. Madison, Page and Tyler, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Nansemond; praying that all that part of the said county, lying on the south of Blackwater and Nottoway rivers, may be added to the county of Southampton, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said petition is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee to whom the letter from General Washington was referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon,

which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, "for changing the destination of the shares in the Potomac and James rivers companies," vested in the General, by an act of the last session of the General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Tyler, Madison, Bullitt, Matthews, Innes, Richard Bland Lee, Braxton, Prentiss, Simms, Süth, Stuart, Archibald Stuart, and Page, do prepare and bring in the same.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, November 16, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "authorising John Mayo the younger, to build a toll bridge across James river;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, authorising John Mayo the younger, to build a toll bridge across James river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for giving further time to the proprietors of lots in the town of Bath, to make improvements thereon;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for giving further time to the proprietors of lots in the town of Bath, to make improvements thereon."

*Ordered*, That Mr. David Stuart do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham for the year 1784;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Ronald, Wills, Turberville and Hopkins.

Mr. Ronald presented, according to order, a bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river, to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a petition of Col. Le Maire, a French officer, who entered into the service of the State during the late war; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Claims.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, accompanying the proceedings of the Executive, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the said letter, with the proceedings of the Executive, do lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

Mr. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying certain sums of money to John Archer, and Agnes May, administratrix of Richard May, deceased. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "for securing to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had gone through the following bills, to wit:

A bill, "to arrange the counties into Senatorial districts."

A bill, "concerning elections of members of General Assembly."

A bill, "empowering one of the Executive Council to officiate in certain cases as Lieutenant Governor."

A bill, "concerning the public treasurer."

A bill, "for the appointment of clerks to the Governor and Council."

A bill, "concerning seamen."

A bill, "directing the course of descents;" to which said bills they had made several amendments, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bills, with the amendments, be severally engrossed and read the third time.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said Revised Code.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Pettus have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for vesting in George Wash-



ington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Porter be added to the committees for Courts of Justice, and Claims.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 17, 1785.

A bill, "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on the first Monday in December next.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time. ✓

A bill, "for securing to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "for adding part of the county of Nansemond to that of Southampton;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill, "appointing trustees for the town of Suffolk, and for enlarging the same;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a petition to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the minister and elders of the German Lutheran church in the borough of Winchester, praying that they may be authorised to raise, by way of lottery, a sum of money not exceeding 500*l.* for the purpose of finishing a church belonging to the said society in the said borough, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the petition of William Boyce was re-committed, that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner was called into service in the year 1781, and acted as a major in a body of light infantry, commanded by Col. Alexander Dick, in which character he acquitted himself as a deserving and good officer; that that particular service rendered it necessary for the petitioner to keep a horse in the field, and that he equipped himself accordingly, with a very valuable one; that his commanding officer (Col. Dick,) being ordered upon some particular duty by the Marquis de la Fayette, insisted upon the loan of the petitioner's horse, and accordingly took possession of him; that the said horse was stolen from Col. Dick whilst executing the Marquis's orders, and has never been recovered by the petitioner, who is in very indigent circumstances.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said William Boyce, praying to be paid by the public the value of his said horse, be rejected.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Benjamin Johnson, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Benjamin Johnson was, on the 4th day of March 1780, commissioned deputy surveyor for the county of Yohogania, and qualified thereto in April 1781. ✓

It also appears to your committee, that the said Benjamin Johnson was, on the 12th day of September 1783, commissioned surveyor of the said county of Yohogania; that he hath since frequently applied to several magistrates, the sheriff and clerk of the said county, requesting them to hold a court for the purpose of qualifying to his commission, but which could not be effected, as all the magistrates, sheriff and clerk, were taken into the State of Pennsylvania, by running the dividing line between that State and Virginia.

It further appears to your committee, from a certificate of the late clerk of Yohogania court, that the said Benjamin Johnson entered into bond, dated the third day of April 1783, with two sufficient securities, in the penalty of one thousand pounds, payable to Benjamin Harrison, Esq. Governor of Virginia, and his successors, for the faithful performance of the said office of county surveyor, which bond is lodged among the records of the said county; that ✓

the said clerk had administered the oath prescribed by law to the said Benjamin Johnson; and that there had not been a court held for the said county since the date of his commission.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Benjamin Johnson, is reasonable; and that an act ought to pass, declaring the oath taken, and bond executed by the said Benjamin Johnson, as surveyor for the said county of Yohogania, before the late clerk of the said county court, to be as good and valid in law, as if the same had been taken and executed in open court.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the next session of Assembly.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said Revised Code.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor respecting certain persons from the coast of Barbary, now in the city of Richmond, and enclosing a letter from the delegates of this State in Congress, and one from the secretary of that body.

*Ordered,* That the letter from the Governor be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That the rest of the said letters and papers do lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Pickett be added to the committees for Religion, Propositions and Grievances, and Claims; and Mr. Thruston, to the committee to whom was referred the memorial of the convention of Kentucky.

Mr. Hancock presented, according to order, a bill for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle in the county of Botetourt; and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of Eleanor Lawson, executrix of John Lawson, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a negro man slave, the property of the said John Lawson, was condemned to be hanged by the court of Westmoreland county, but before the day of execution arrived, he made his escape from jail, and has not since been heard of; and praying that the value of the said slave may be paid to her.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henrico, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read, in opposition to a petition presented on Saturday last, by the commissioners appointed by the courts of the counties of Hanover and Henrico; praying that a marked boundary line may be run between the said counties along the main run of Chickahominy swamp.

Also, a petition of James Berwick, late a lieutenant in the Virginia line on continental establishment; praying that he may be allowed a bounty in lands.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Ronald reported, from the committee to whom the bill "concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham, for the year 1784," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A remonstrance of several Baptist churches, assembled by their representatives in general association, in the county of Orange, on the 17th of September last, was presented to the House, and read; containing sundry resolutions of that body, in opposition to the bill, published by order of the House of Delegates at the last session, "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" also, stating sundry objections to the acts, "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal church," and "granting certain exclusions to Quakers and Menonists;" all which they consider as repugnant to sound policy, equal liberty, and the true interests of religion; and concluding with a hope that a general assessment may not receive the sanction of the General Assembly.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hanover, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a general assessment for the purposes of religion.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Princess Anne, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered,* That the said remonstrance and petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Wilson Cary, Sherwin, Clarke of Prince Edward, and William Garrard, have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight; and Mr. Meriwether Smith, until Thursday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



FRIDAY, November 18, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled "an act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for securing to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for securing to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham, for the year 1784;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham, for the year 1784."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for adding part of the county of Nansemond, to that of Southampton;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "appointing trustees for the town of Suffolk, and for enlarging the same;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "incorporating trustees for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle, in the county of Botetourt;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Williamson Ball, Eggleston, Garland and Taylor, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'night.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amelia, whose names are, thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen and considered a bill published by order of the House of Delegates at their last session, "establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion," and highly disapprove of the same, as opposed to the true interest of religion, and contrary to sound policy; and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said county of Amelia, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the contrary effect; and praying that the said bill may be enacted into a law.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Thomas Goode, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the testimony of David Patteson, Esq. and also from a certificate under the hand of Col. Robert Goode, that in the year 1781, when this country was invaded by the British troops, the petitioner, with a number of others in the militia of Chesterfield county, were ordered upon duty; that Major Langburne, then an aid-de-camp to the Marquis de la Fayette, was at that time reconnoitering and patrolling the enemy's lines, and took the petitioner under his command; that whilst engaged in that service they were taken prisoners by a party of the enemy, who also took from the petitioner a valuable bay mare and accoutrements.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Thomas Goode, praying to be paid by the public for the loss of the said mare and accoutrements, be rejected.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, authorising the Executive to liquidate a claim of David Ross's against the public. And then he withdrew.

A petition of John Lewis, on behalf of his daughter Mildred, and of Thornton Washington, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by an act of Assembly, passed in the year 1778, all the lands whereof John Thornton, of the county of Caroline, died seized, were vested in trustees, who were authorised to sell the same, and apply the money arising therefrom, as therein directed; that they accordingly sold the said lands, which were purchased by General Woodford and John Taliaferro, who were interested in the same degree with the petitioners; that although the lands were sold for ready money, no payment was made until 17 months had elapsed, when the paper currency was considerably depreciated, and then, of only one-fourth of the purchase money; that another fourth was afterwards paid in the month of December 1781, after an act had passed for funding the paper currency; and praying that the act first mentioned may be repealed, and that the said lands may be revested in trustees for the purpose of selling the same, upon the purchase money being repaid to the said Woodford and Taliaferro.



*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill, "to postpone the collection of the tax for the year 1785;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" "for punishing certain offences and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, November 19, 1785.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

*X* MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, "for giving further time to the proprietors of lots in the town of Bath to make improvements thereon." And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "for appointing trustees for the town of Suffolk, and enlarging the same;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for appointing trustees for the town of Suffolk, and enlarging the same."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for adding part of Nansemond county to that of Southampton;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for adding part of the county of Nansemond to that of Southampton."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "incorporating trustees for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle, in the county of Botetourt;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, incorporating trustees for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle in the county of Botetourt."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be discharged from further proceeding on the petition of Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Walker, to them referred; and that the same be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a petition of the administrators and sundry creditors of John Mills, late of the county of Fairfax, deceased, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said John Mills died in the year 1783 intestate and seized of a considerable real and personal estate; that his administrators have sold his personal estate; but the money arising from the sale thereof, will by no means be adequate to the payment of his debts.

It further appears to your committee, that James Mills, late of the county of Middlesex, deceased, devised to the said John Mills a part of his debts, which when collected, will amount to a considerable sum, but as these debts are in the hands of various persons, and several legacies to a considerable amount are to be previously paid, there is no prospect of the administrators receiving any part of them for many years.

It further appears to your committee, that the heir at law of the said John Mills, is a native of, and resident in the Island of Great Britain, and that his real estate was escheated to the Commonwealth.

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the administrators and creditors of the said John Mills, praying that the administrators may be authorised to sell the lands whereof he died seized, and apply the money arising therefrom to the payment of his just debts in a regular course of administration, is reasonable; and that the said administrators shall, as soon as they receive the legacy devised to him, the said John Mills,

pay into the public treasury so much thereof as shall be equal to the sum arising from the sale of the lands applied by them to the discharge of his debts, after deducting a reasonable allowance for their expenses and trouble.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Bullitt presented, according to order, a bill "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Bassett Harrison, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, an amendment agreed to yesterday, to the bill "to postpone the collection of the tax for 1785;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read.

A motion was made, and the question being put to amend the said bill, by striking out from the word "whereas," to the end of the bill, and inserting in lieu thereof the following words, "from the apparent scarcity of circulating specie, the sudden and great fall of our staple commodity, together with the difficulties thrown in the way of our trade, it is found impracticable, without involving the people in too great and deep distress, to collect from them the one half tax levied for the year 1785, by an act, entitled "an act, to discharge the people of this Commonwealth from the payment of one half the revenue tax for the year 1785;" and there is reason to believe that by remitting of the said tax, the people will be hereafter enabled to pay the revenue taxes with more ease and punctuality; and that such payment may answer the exigencies of government;

"*Be it therefore enacted*, That the said recited act, as far as it relates to the levying and collecting the said one half tax, be repealed.

"*And whereas*, It is supposed that the sheriffs and collectors may in some instances have collected the said tax, or a part thereof;

"*Be it therefore further enacted*, That the respective sheriffs and collectors of the said tax, shall pay into the treasury of this Commonwealth, all sums of money or facilities of whatever kind, as the case may be, which they shall have so collected or received.

"And the more effectually to discover and prevent impositions on the people by the sheriffs;

"*Be it further enacted*, That the court of each county shall, as soon as may be after the passing of this act, call on their several sheriffs to make up an account upon oath, of the several sums of money and facilities they have received in part of the said tax now remitted, distinguishing of whom received, the time of payment, and the amount of payments on that account to the treasurer, to remain in such court for the satisfaction of all persons interested therein. And the said courts are hereby required to furnish immediately such statement, so exhibited by the sheriffs or collectors, to the solicitor, that he may know on what sheriffs or collectors to call for the payment of all monies or facilities they may have received from the people.

"And that such payments may afford to the people that benefit, which they may have a right to expect;

"*Be it further enacted*, That for all sums of money or facilities so paid to the sheriffs or collectors, the persons so paying the same, shall have a right in their next payment of taxes, to demand the principal, and an interest of five per centum per annum, from the time such payment was made, to the time of collecting the next revenue tax; which the sheriffs and collectors are hereby required to allow to all such persons; and in the settlement of their accounts with the treasurer, the said five per cent. interest shall be allowed them."

Ayes, 52.

Noes, 42.

It was resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made by Mr. John Bowyer, and seconded by Mr. Carrington;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question to agree to the foregoing amendment, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, the honorable Benjamin Harrison, Esq. Speaker; Hugh Rose, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Hickenson Barksdale, John Clarke, Charles Moll, Talbot, Edmund Read, Carter Henry Harrison, Joseph Jones, William Gatewood, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmeter, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, George Jackson, John Prunty, John Dillard, John Rentfro, John Seabrook Wills, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, James Ball, jun. William White, Thomas Johnson, Christopher Robertson, William Curtis, David Scott, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, William Hartwell Macon. John Gordon, Abraham Beachum, Charles Porter, Benjamin Lankford, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, George Lee Turberville, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Hopkins, Gavin Hamilton, Thomas Ridley, George Stubblefield, John Whitaker Willis, Richard Cary and Richard Lee.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, Joshua Fry, Zachariah Johnston, Moses Hunter, George Hancock, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Claiborne, John Tyler, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, Miles King, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Elias Wills, Charles Mynn Thruston, Alexander White, John Page, Edmund Wilkins, Isaac Coles, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, William Thornton, Francis Peyton, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Corbin, Willis Riddick, Willis Wilson, Daniel Sandford, Griffin Smith, James Madison, William Ronald, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Anthony Walker, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Howell Briggs, Andrew Kincannon, Nathaniel Nelson, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “authorising John Mayo the younger, to build a toll bridge across James river,” with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; “to secure to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time,” with an amendment, to which also they desire the concurrence of this House; and “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers.’” And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to amend the act, ‘concerning pensioners;’” “to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;” “for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;” and “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on lands granted by patent,’” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, November 21, 1785.

An engrossed bill, “for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “to postpone the collection of the tax for the year 1785;” was read the third time.

And engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of rider, to empower the solicitor general to move for, and obtain judgment for the penalty of the bond given by any sheriff or collector, who should fail to render when required, an account of the taxes by him already collected.

And the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill by way of rider.

And then the main question being put, that the said bill with the rider do pass;

It was resolved in the negative.

Ayes, 48.

Noes, 50.

*Resolved*, That the said bill be rejected.

On a motion made by Mr. John Mayo, jun. and seconded by Mr. John Clarke;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clark, Charles Moil Talbot, Anthony New, Edmund Read, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, William Gatewood, Thomas Smith, George Clendinnen, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmeter, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, George Jackson, John Prunty, John Dillard, John Rentfro, John Seabrook Wills, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, William White, Thomas Johnson, Christopher Robertson, William Curtis, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, John Gordon, Abraham Beachum, Charles Porter, William Harrison, Benjamin Launkford, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Hopkins, Gavin Hamilton, Thomas Ridley, George Stubblefield, John Whitaker Willis, Richard Cary and Richard Lee.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, Joshua Fry, Zachariah Johnston, Moses Hunter, George Hancock, Archibald Stuart, John Tyler, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, Henry Fry, Miles King, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Christopher Greenup, George Thompson, Elias Wills, Alexander White, John Page, Edmund Wilkins, Isaac Coles, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun. William Norvell, John Roberts, William Thornton, James Ball, jun. Francis Peyton, Richard Bland Lee, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, Francis Corbin, Willis Riddick, William Hartwell Macon, Willis Wilson, Daniel Sandford, Griffin Smith, James Madison, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, James Garrard, Thomas Mann Randolph, Thomas Underwood, Anthony Walke, George Lee Turberville, John Howell Briggs, Andrew Kincannon, Nathaniel Nelson and Thomas Matthews.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Bland:



MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham, for the year 1784.” And then he withdrew.

A bill, “for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;” was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “authorising Mr. John Mayo, the younger, to build a toll bridge across James river;” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill “for securing to the authors of literary works an exclusive property therein, for a limited time;” and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Stith, Turberville, and James Ball, be added to the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Ruffin and Lucas, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday next.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill “to amend the act, ‘concerning pensioners;’” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Carrington reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;” “for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;” and “to repeal the act, entitled ‘an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent;’” and “to appropriate the money arising therefrom,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 22, 1785.

An engrossed bill, “to arrange the counties into Senatorial districts;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass, and that the title be, “an act, to arrange the counties into Senatorial districts.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “concerning elections of members of General Assembly;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass, and that the title be, “an act, concerning election of members of General Assembly.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “empowering one of the Privy Council to officiate in certain cases as Lieutenant Governor;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass, and that the title be, “an act, empowering one of the Privy Council to officiate in certain cases as Lieutenant Governor.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “concerning the public treasurer;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, concerning the public treasurer.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for the appointment of clerks to the Governor and Council;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for the appointment of clerks to the Governor and Council.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “concerning seamen;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, concerning seamen.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “directing the course of descents;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, directing the course of descents.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had,

according to order, had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had gone through the following bills, to wit:

A bill, "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators."

A bill, "for regulating conveyances."

A bill, "concerning escheators."

A bill, "to prevent frauds and perjuries."

A bill, "concerning the dower and jointures of widows;" to which said bills they had made several amendments; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House:

*Ordered*, That the said bills, with the amendments, be severally engrossed and read the third time.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said Revised Code.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Alexander Wyly, late door-keeper to the Council; praying that an allowance may be made him by the public, for extra services by him performed, in affixing the seal of the Commonwealth to all patents and commissions which were issued from the Council board, between the years 1777 and 1781, be rejected.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Moffett, late sheriff of Fauquier county; setting forth, that in consequence of the misconduct of his deputies, he has been unable to complete his collection of the tax due in the said county of Fauquier, on certain enumerated commodities, for the years 1782 and 1783, and that the solicitor general has obtained a judgment against him for the balance of the said tax; and praying that the execution thereof may be postponed until the 1st day of May next, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the 2d resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of the convention of the district of Kentucky, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the good people in the district of Kentucky, praying that the said district may be separated from the other parts of the State, and that they may be empowered to establish an independent government, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the right to all kind of property shall be secured to the citizens of this State, and also to all who have purchased under them.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said district ought to be answerable for their just quota of this State's domestic and continental debt.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to use their best endeavors to prevail with Congress to receive the said intended State into the Union.

The said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to prevent the sheriffs from making distress for the public taxes, until the 1st day of March next;" and that Messrs. Tyler, Braxton and Corbin, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and that Messrs. Madison, Innes, Carrington, Simms, Alexander White, Stith, Bullitt, Tyler, Stuart and Briggs, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Page and Thornton, be added to the committee for Courts of Justice; Messrs. Dudley and Edwards to the committee of Claims; and Mr. Pate to the committees of Propositions and Grievances, and Claims.

Mr. Bullitt reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for vesting the estate of John Tyler, deceased, in William Tyler the younger, was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A petition of Abraham, a mulatto man slave, belonging to the estate of Thomas Bentley, deceased, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by a series of faithful services to his late master, he so far gained his confidence and affection, that he was frequently entrusted with property to a considerable amount, and was never treated or considered by him as a slave; and that he has great reason to believe, nothing but the suddenness of his master's death, prevented him from directing his emancipation, either by will or deed; and praying that an act may pass for his manumission.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, lessees of the lands in the county of James City, called the Governor's land; setting forth, that by a late act of Assembly the interest of the public in the said land was transferred to the College

of William and Mary, the professors of which have since threatened to dispossess them; and praying that their interest therein, which they acquired previous to the late revolution, may be secured to them.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Benjamin Johnson, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he was deputy sheriff and sole collector of the taxes for the year 1782, in the county of King George, and notwithstanding he made every exertion, was unable to complete his collection in time; that in consequence of his failure, a judgment was obtained against him, with costs and damages; and praying that the said costs and damages may be refunded.

Also, a petition of Raleigh Colston; setting forth, that in the year 1783, his agent in the city of Richmond was induced by a perfect confidence in public securities, to dispose of a large quantity of merchandize for certificates for tobacco, issued under certain resolutions of the General Assembly, and for sundry orders of the then Governor upon the treasurer for tobacco; and praying that provision may be made for paying the said certificates and orders; or if this is not practicable, that he may be paid the interest thereof.

Also, a petition of Thomas Griffin Peachy; praying that compensation may be made to him for the loss of his storehouses in Amelia county, which were burnt by the enemy in the year 1781, in consequence of their being filled with public stores.

Also, a petition of William Evans; praying that the auditors may be directed to grant him a warrant for the value of a negro man slave, who was condemned to suffer death by a court martial, for giving intelligence to the enemy in the year 1781.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Madison presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Frederick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a new public road from the pass at the Blue Ridge, called Ashby's Gap, to the town of Dumfries, may be made greatly nearer than the present road, and will be of great public utility; and praying that an act may pass, appointing commissioners to lay off, open and establish the same.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Augusta, Hampshire and Rockingham, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they suffer great inconveniences and hardship from the present situation of their respective counties, their remote situation from their courthouses, and the difficulty and danger of their public roads; and praying that they may be separated from their said respective counties, and united to each other and formed into a distinct county.

Also, a petition of the society of Free Masons, lodge No. 13, in the city of Richmond; praying that they may be authorised to raise by way of lottery, a sum not exceeding 1500*l.* for the sole purpose of building a mason's hall in the said city.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Bedford, Campbell and Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that warehouses may be erected and an inspection established at Lynch's ferry on James river, for tobacco, hemp and flour.

Also, a petition of sundry merchants and other inhabitants of the city of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition to a petition now depending for the removal of the inspection of tobacco at Byrd's warehouses in the said city, to Rocketts.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants on the south branch of the river Potomac in the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that they may be authorised to remove all obstructions of fish dams, weirs and other impediments injurious to the navigation of the said river, or the passage of fish, and to prevent all future stops therein.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that a water grist mill erected on the said south branch of Potomac, the property of Conrad Hoffman and John Hoffman, may be continued; the said proprietors erecting a gate sufficient for the passage of boats and other such vessels.

Also, a petition of John Campbell, on behalf of himself and Joseph Simon; setting forth, that a certain Alexander McKee, late of Pittsburg, was indebted to them in a considerable sum, and during the late war absconded and joined the enemy, leaving an estate in lands, which were escheated to the Commonwealth, and by an act of Assembly granted to the trustees of the Transylvania Seminary, for the use of the same, without any provision for the creditors of the said McKee; and praying relief.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, November 23, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for vesting the estate of John Tyler, deceased, in William Tyler the younger;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for vesting the estate of John Tyler, deceased, in trustees, for certain purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bullitt do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned,'" was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to authorise the raising by way of lottery, a sum of money for completing a church in the borough of Winchester;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bibb have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Thursday se'nnight; Mr. Claiborne, until Thursday fortnight; and Mr. Walke, until this day fortnight.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Starke, sen. setting forth, that in the year 1781, when this State was invaded by the British troops, the records of the Superior Courts were deposited at his house in Hanover county, as a place of security; that the enemy soon after encamped on his plantation, by whom he was treated with great severity, and plundered of property to a considerable amount, owing, as he believes, to the lodgment of the records aforesaid at his house; and praying that compensation may be made him for the injuries and losses he sustained, in consequence of his endeavors to preserve the said records, be rejected.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Joseph Starke, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be directed to issue a warrant in his favor for 30*l.*, being the sum allowed him by a court of Claims held for Hanover county, for a horse and saddle taken from him by the British troops in the year 1781, be rejected.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Eleanor Lawson, executrix of John Lawson, deceased, setting forth, that in the month of September 1779, a negro man slave named Joe, the property of the petitioner's testator, was, by the court of Westmoreland county, condemned to be hanged; that after his condemnation he was twice reprieved by Gov. Jefferson; but upon a third application for a further reprieve, it was positively refused; that before the day appointed for the execution of the said slave arrived, he made his escape from the jailer of the said county, and to retake him several ineffectual attempts were made; that the said slave has not been heard of for several years past, and is believed to be dead; and praying to be paid by the public the valuation of the said slave, be rejected.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of Benjamin Johnson, late deputy sheriff of the county of King George, as prays the ten per cent. damages on a judgment obtained against him by the solicitor for the balance of the taxes for the year 1782, which has been levied and collected from him by execution, may be refunded to him, is reasonable.

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the petition of the said Benjamin Johnson, as prays that the costs of the said judgment may also be refunded to him, be rejected.

The 1st and 3d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 2d, 4th, and 5th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Lee do carry the 4th resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of the Common Council of the town of Alexandria, as prays that the proprietors of the lands adjoining the said town within one mile westwardly of

the courthouse, and between Great Hunting Creek and Four-mile Run, which have not already been laid off, and which may hereafter be added to the said town, may be compelled to lay off the same into lots and streets, agreeable to the original plan, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said petition, as prays that the streets which have been already laid off, may be extended in their present direction to a line to be drawn parallel with Fairfax street one mile westwardly of the courthouse, and southwardly to Great Hunting Creek, and northwardly to Four-mile Run, or Potomac river, as the case may require, is reasonable.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the street known by the name of Washington street, laid off by some of the proprietors to sixty feet in width only, may be enlarged to one hundred feet in its whole extent, is reasonable.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the residue of the said petition, praying that the street called Franklin street, may be continued of the width of one hundred feet in its whole extent, be rejected.

5. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the Reverend David Griffith, praying that he may receive compensation for the injury his property may sustain by widening Washington street in the said town of Alexandria, is reasonable.

6. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the minister and vestry of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the parish and county of Fairfax, praying that a lot which they hold in trust for the use of the said parish, and on which a church is erected in the town of Alexandria, may not be affected by the extension of Cameron street, is reasonable.

7. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Harper, Charles Simms, Leven Powell and James Keith, in opposition to so much of the petition of the Common Council of the town of Alexandria, as prays that Franklin street may be continued the width of one hundred feet, in its whole extent, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had gone through the following bills, to wit:

A bill, "for the preservation of the estates of idiots and lunatics."

A bill, "providing that wrongful alienations of lands shall be void, so far as they be wrongful."

A bill, "for levying county rates."

A bill, "to prevent the circulation of private bank notes."

A bill, "to prevent losses by pirates, enemies, and others, on the high seas."

A bill, "concerning estrays."

A bill, "for restitution of stolen goods."

A bill, "for preventing infection of horned cattle."

A bill, "for improving the breed of horses."

A bill, "for licensing and regulating taverns."

A bill, "concerning public roads;" to which said bills, they have made several amendments, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by House.

*Ordered,* That the said bills, with the amendments, be severally engrossed and read the third time.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said Revised Code.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom was referred a letter from his excellency the Governor, enclosing the petition of Col. Le Maire, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Col. Le Maire, with the several papers in support thereof, ought to be referred to the Executive; and that they be empowered to examine the same, and to make such allowance to the petitioner, as to them shall appear to be just and right, to be paid on a warrant from the Governor, out of the funds appropriated for the payment of foreign debts.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That this House will, on Friday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth and of a treasurer, for the ensuing year.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Catesby Jones, clerk of Northumberland county, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Catesby Jones, praying that the act, entitled "an act, compelling the county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same, and for other purposes," so far as it has a retrospective operation, may be amended, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Richard Evers Lee, administrator of the estate of Samuel Allyne, deceased, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said Samuel Allyne was in his life time, seized and possessed of a valuable tract or piece of land in the town of Portsmouth and county of Norfolk; that the said Allyne being indebted to Andrew Sprowle the sum of 2s. 6l. 16s. 9d., for securing the same, authorised the said Sprowle to dispose of the said land, who accordingly sold the same in the year 1775, to a certain Roger Stewart, for the sum of 775l.; that after deducting the said sum of 286l. 16s. 9d., the said Sprowle gave his bond to the said Allyne for the sum of 488l. 3s. 3d., the balance due for the sales of the said land; that before said bond became due, or any part thereof paid, except 30l., the said Sprowle and Stewart joined the British army, and all their estate has been since escheated and sold, and the money arising from such sales paid into the public treasury; that the creditors of the said Allyne are in danger of losing their debts, unless restitution be made out of the effects of the said Sprowle to the estate of the said Allyne, to the amount of the said bond with interest.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Richard Evers Lee, administrator of the estate of the said Samuel Allyne, deceased, is reasonable; and that the auditors of public accounts, ought to issue a warrant for the balance due on the said bond, with interest, to the said Richard Evers Lee, administrator as aforesaid, upon his delivering to them the bond aforesaid.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Thomas Nicolson and William Prentis, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, as are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that on the 6th day of January last, the house in which the proprietors lived, took fire, and was totally consumed; that fifteen sheets of the revised laws, and fifteen hundred copies of each sheet, together with ninety reams of paper, purchased for the express purpose of printing the said laws, were burnt in the said house; that the revisors, after the petitioners had contracted with the Executive for printing the laws, directed them in addition to that work, to print three and a half sheets of the laws of the fall session of 1783, for which they charge 35l.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Nicolson and Prentis, praying to be paid for their services, and paper destroyed, amounting to the sum of 252l. 10s., is reasonable; upon condition they make affidavit to their account.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

A petition of Samuel M'Dowell and Caleb Wallace, Esquires, assistant judges of the Supreme Court in the district of Kentucky, was presented to the House, and read; praying that provision may be made for the payment of the salaries due to them previous to the May session 1784, and that the salaries of all the officers of the said court, which are now due, or hereafter may become due, may be paid out of the funds originally allotted for that purpose, but which were by an act of the last Assembly appropriated in part to other purposes.

Also, a memorial of the late officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments; setting forth, that from sundry acts and resolutions of the General Assembly, they conceive that they are entitled to half pay for life; that notwithstanding several applications have been made to the Legislature, it has been withheld; and praying that the same may be granted to them.

Also, a petition of Harry Innes; setting forth, that he was appointed chief judge of the Supreme Court, in the district of Kentucky, in October 1782, and served in that office until November 1784, when he was appointed attorney general for the said district; that there is a considerable balance of his salary as judge and as attorney general due to him, which he cannot receive from the treasury, as the fund from which it was to be paid, is exhausted; and praying that he may be permitted to apply a sum of public money now in his hands to discharge the same.

Also, a petition of Thomas Drew; setting forth, that as paymaster to the State garrison regiment, he drew from the treasury a sum of money, the vouchers for the proper disbursement of which were destroyed by the enemy at the defeat of the American army at Camden; and praying that he may be permitted to settle his accounts upon oath.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Augusta, Rockbridge and Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that a part of each of the said counties, agreeably to the bounds therein mentioned, may be taken off from them, and formed into a distinct county.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that the same may be divided into three distinct counties, agreeably to the bounds therein mentioned.



*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the treasurer do lay his accounts before the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'concerning entries and surveys on the western waters,'" and that Messrs. Greenup, Stith, Archibald Stuart, and Thruston, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting Benjamin Johnson. And then he withdrew.

A petition of John Archer, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that he is possessed of a note for a hogshead of tobacco, which was burnt in the warehouses at Rocky Ridge, and which he was prevented, by a variety of circumstances, from presenting to the commissioners before the time allowed by law expired; and praying that the commissioners may be authorised to continue their settlement of such claims.

Also, a petition of Walter King Cole; praying that he may receive payment of a considerable sum of money due to him in consequence of the confiscation of certain lands and slaves which the General Assembly directed should be restored to him.

Also, a petition of John Banister, attorney in fact for Bartholomew Bouregard, who was attorney in fact for the widow and heirs of James Bouregard, deceased; praying that funds may be provided for the payment of a liquidated claim of the said James Bouregard, deceased, against the public.

Also, a petition of Catlett James; setting forth, that he served several years in the continental army, and is, in consequence of an illness contracted during his service, rendered incapable of labor; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Matthew Wills; setting forth, that in the month of December 1780, he purchased a quantity of salt, which was soon after taken from him for the use of the public; that the person of whom he purchased it has since obtained a judgment against him for the purchase money, which he cannot pay without distressing himself, unless the General Assembly will direct that the amount of the certificate granted to him be immediately discharged; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. John Bowyer be added to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, November 24, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for regulating conveyances;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for regulating conveyances."

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for adding part of the county of Nansemond to that of Southampton," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for the purpose of completing a church in the borough of Winchester;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be, and he is hereby directed and empowered to allow in the settlement of the account of Francis Conway, late sheriff of King George county, for taxes due from him for the year 1783, the sum of 113*l*. 9*s*. 4*d*., being the amount of the damages on a judgment recovered against him by the solicitor, and refunded to him by a resolution of the present General Assembly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thornton do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Archibald Stuart reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of George Taylor and James Madison to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of George Taylor and James Madison, setting

forth, that by two acts of Assembly passed previous to the late revolution, they were appointed trustees for the purpose of selling a tract of land, whereof Harry Beverley, gentleman, was seized in fee taillie; that they have accordingly executed the trust reposed in them, by selling the said lands and applying the money as therein directed; and praying that commissioners may be appointed to settle their accounts and make them a reasonable allowance for their expenses and trouble, and that they may be permitted to assign the securities now remaining in their hands to the heir at law of the said Harry Beverley, deceased, and entirely discharged from the said trust, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the petition of John Starke, sen. was recommitted, that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had come to the following resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of the said John Starke, sen. as prays that compensation may be made him by the public, for the injuries and losses he sustained from the British troops in the year 1781, in consequence of the records of the Superior Courts being deposited at his house, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that some allowance be made the petitioner for his care of and safe keeping the records of the Superior Courts in the year 1781, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed and paid the sum of 25*l.* for the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the last resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for the purpose of completing a church in the borough of Winchester," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses, to authorise the vestry of the parish of Elizabeth river in the county of Norfolk, to raise a sum of money not exceeding pounds, for the purpose of rebuilding a church in the said parish.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had gone through the following bills, to wit:

A bill, "concerning mill-dams and other obstructions of water courses."

A bill, "for unloading ballast, and burial of dead bodies from on board ships."

A bill, "concerning slaves;" to which said bills, they had made several amendments, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said Revised Code.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution authorising the sheriff of King George county, to retain a sum of money in his hands which the treasurer had been directed to refund to him. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Edmunds of Brunswick, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until this day fortnight.

The House proceeded to consider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "for adding part of the county of Nansemond to that of Southampton;" and the same being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A petition of Richard Taylor, was presented to the House, and read; praying that he may be allowed a bounty in lands, in consideration of his services in the army during the late war.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry merchants and other inhabitants of the town of Petersburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they consider the commerce of the State, as in a ruinous situation from the restrictions and impositions which have been laid upon it by the commercial powers of Europe; and praying that such measures may be adopted as may tend to re-establish it upon a permanent basis; and that due encouragement be given to the building of ships in this State, and to the trade carried on in American bottoms, and owned by American merchants only.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to authorise certain county courts to appoint inspectors of lumber within their respective counties;" and that Messrs. Matthews, John Scasbrook Wills, King and Cary do prepare and bring in the same.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, giving salaries to certain officers of government;" and that Messrs. Underwood, Macon, Richard Lee, John Bowyer, Richard Bland Lee, and Thomas Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

# FRIDAY, November 25, 1785.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "concerning the public treasurer;" and "for the appointment of clerks to the Governor and Council." And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "concerning escheators;" was read the third time.

Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning escheators."

Ordered, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent frauds and perjuries;" was read the third time.

Resolved, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prevent frauds and perjuries."

Ordered, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "appointing trustees for the town of Suffolk, and for enlarging the same;" also, they do agree to proceed this day, by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate, and of a treasurer for the ensuing year. And then he withdrew.

Ordered, That Mr. Bland, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until this day week.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the report and resolution upon the petition of Nicolson and Prentis was recommitted, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their further consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that on the 6th day of January last, the house in which the petitioners lived, took fire, and was totally consumed; that fifteen sheets of the revised laws and fifteen hundred copies of each sheet, together with ninety reams of paper procured for the express purpose of printing the said laws, were burnt in the said house; that the revisors, after the petitioners had contracted with the Executive for printing the said laws directed them, in addition to that work, to print three and a half sheets of the laws of the fall session of 1783.

1. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the said Nicolson and Prentis, as prays to be paid the sum of 150*l.* for the printed sheets which were burnt, be rejected.

2. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such further part of the said petition, as prays that they may be paid the sum of 67*l.* 10*s.* for the ninety reams of paper also burnt, be rejected.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition as prays, that they may be paid the sum of 35*l.* for printing the laws of the fall session of 1783, is reasonable.

Ordered, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the third resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Henry Banks, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that James Hawkins, on the 23d day of December 1783, (the day preceding a resolution of Assembly was to take effect directing no more treasury land warrants should be issued) paid into the treasury 266,075*l.* paper currency value, on account of sundry specie warrants and certificates, amounting to 266*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* applied to the purchase of unappropriated lands; that on the same day, the said Hawkins obtained the auditor's certificate, entitling him to 166,296 acres of waste and unappropriated land; which certificate was assigned by the said Hawkins to the said Banks, who made application to the register of the land office for a warrant, after the time had expired in which he was authorised to issue them.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Henry Banks, is reasonable; and that the register of the Land Office ought to issue warrants to the said Banks for 166,296 acres of waste and unappropriated land;

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of James Berwick, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said James Berwick, acted as commissary of the garrison at Fort Pitt, from



the month of September 1775 to the month of March following, when he was appointed ensign in the 8th Virginia regiment, in which rank he acted until March 1777, when he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, in which capacity he acted until the 28th of May 1778, when he resigned his commission in the line, and immediately obtained a brevet from General McIntosh for a captain in one of the two regiments directed by Congress to be raised for the defence of the frontier; that the regiments not being raised, the petitioner acted as judge advocate at Tuscaraway, until February 1779; that in the year 1781, the said Berwick acted as commissary to the troops under the command of General Clark, as well as judge advocate, until July 1782, when the troops were disbanded.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said James Berwick, is reasonable; and that he ought to be allowed the same portion of land as is by law given to a captain.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Campbell, on behalf of himself and Joseph Simons, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Alexander M'Kee is indebted to the said Campbell and Simons by bond, bearing date the 4th of June 1766, in the sum of 577l. 3s. Pennsylvania currency, exclusive of interest, and also the balance of 21l. 17s. 10d. by an open account.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Alexander M'Kee was not possessed of any property, except the 2,000 acres of land in the county of Fayette, which has been escheated and vested in the Commonwealth, and by the General Assembly given to the trustees of the Transylvania Seminary.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said John Campbell, in behalf of himself and Joseph Simons, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the trustees of the Transylvania Seminary, or any five of them ought, within nine months, to sell upon one year's credit, so much of the land vested in the trustees, either by public or private sale, as will satisfy and pay the money due to the said Campbell and Simons.

The said resolutions being read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth for the taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in the payment thereof;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Mathews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the said report be received to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution authorising the Executive to liquidate the claim of Colonel Le Maire. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Turberville and Corbin, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend the act, 'for giving salaries to certain officers of government.'"

The House proceeded, according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for the ensuing year, from the 30th day of the present month; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Tyler, Page and Carrington, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time returned into the House, and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Patrick Henry, Esq.

The House, according to the order of the day, proceeded by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a treasurer for the ensuing year, from the 5th day of January next; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Watkins, Norvell and Patterson, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes, and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House, and reported, that the committee had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of Jaquelin Ambler, Esq.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "empowering one of the Privy Council to officiate in certain cases as Lieutenant Governor." And then he withdrew.

The Speaker had before the House a letter from James Berwick, respecting his title to a bounty of lands for his services in the army; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, to whom was committed the instructions for the delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, be discharged from further proceeding thereon; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Page reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of sundry persons, lessees of the land called the Governor's land, in the county of James City, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that by an act of the General Assembly, passed in the May session 1784, all the interest of the public in the said lands was transferred to the president and professors of William and Mary College, for the use thereof.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the said petition is reasonable; and that it was not the intention of the Legislature, when it granted the lands called the Governor's lands to the president and professors of William and Mary University, for the use thereof, to deprive the lessees of those lands of the leases which they obtained under the regal government, but that it conceived those leases to be valid and renewable forever.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, conformable to the above resolution, "to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;'" by which the said Governor's lands were vested in the said president and professors.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Lancaster and Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive the port fixed upon on the river Rappahannock, by the act, "for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports," as by no means so convenient for the purpose as some other situations; and praying that an act may pass "for establishing a town on Corotoman river, a branch of Rappahannock; and that the port may be removed from Hobb's Hole to the said town, when thus established.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Commerce; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Thomas Butler, was presented to the House, and read; praying that a public ferry may be established from his land, on the east side of Cheat river, in the county of Monongalia, to his land on the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of Andrew Jee; praying that a public ferry may be established from his land on the east side of Cheat river, in the county of Monongalia, to the lands of Jacob Scott, on the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fayette, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the same may be divided into two distinct counties, agreeably to the bounds therein mentioned.

Also, a petition of Nathaniel Frisby and Luther Stoddert; setting forth, that they have, at a considerable expense, established a manufactory of tobacco in the town of Manchester, and are of opinion that much of the tobacco refused by the inspectors might be made use of therein, if they were permitted to purchase it; that they also intend to establish a manufactory of hemp, if sufficient encouragement is given by the Legislature to such undertakings, by restrictions and impositions upon these articles when imported from foreign parts; and praying that an act may pass to that effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Robert Mackey, and John Peyton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they hold certain lots in the common, appendant to the town of Winchester, upon which they are restrained from building, by the conditions annexed to their original deeds; that from the rapid increase of the said town, it becomes absolutely necessary to extend its limits; and praying that they may be permitted to lay off the said lots and sell the same.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to amend the several acts, 'concerning the appointment of Sheriffs;" and "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, November 26, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for the preservation of the estates of idiots and lunatics;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass, and that the title be, "an act, for the preservation of the estates of idiots and lunatics."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "providing that wrongful alienations of lands shall be void, so far as they be wrongful;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, providing that wrongful alienations of lands shall be void, so far as they be wrongful."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for levying county rates;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for levying county rates."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to notify to Patrick Henry, Esq. his appointment to be Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, for one year from the 30th day of the present month.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Tyler, Page, Madison, Strother and Underwood.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments, reported from the committee of the whole House, to the bill "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" which lay on the table; and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for the purpose of completing a church in the borough of Winchester" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for vesting the estate of John Tyler, deceased, in trustees, for certain purposes," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bullitt do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A bill, "for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*. That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday se'nnight.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.



MONDAY, November 28, 1785.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Gordon have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Wednesday se'night; and Mr. Burwell until to-morrow three weeks.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carrington do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Simms do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for the purpose of completing a church in the borough of Winchester;" was read the third time, and a blank therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for completing a church in the borough of Winchester, and rebuilding a church in the parish of Elizabeth river, in the county of Norfolk."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent losses by pirates, enemies, and others, on the high seas;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prevent losses by pirates, enemies, and others, on the high seas."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning estrays;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning estrays."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the law, establishing a board of auditors;" and that Messrs. Underwood, John Bowyer, Thomas Smith, and Norvell, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions and a memorial, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the town of Suffolk, and county of Nansemond, praying that the inspection of tobacco in the said town, may be revived and established for the term of two years, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of Harry Innes, as prays that he may be allowed to retain the sum of 204*l.* 4*s.* 3 3-4*d.*, due to him for arrears of salary, as a late judge of the district court in Kentucky, as well as attorney general, out of the monies in his hands, arising from taxes and duties collected in that district, is reasonable.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the salary of the attorney general in the said district may in future be paid by the deputy register in the same manner as the judges, is reasonable.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the assistant judges of the district court in Kentucky, is reasonable; and that the arrears of salary due to them prior to October 1784, ought to be paid out of the same funds as are appropriated by the act, entitled "an act, to amend the act, 'for the better support of the Supreme Court in the Kentucky district.'"

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the commissioners for the counties of Hanover and Henrico, praying that commissioners may be appointed to establish the boundary line between the said counties, is reasonable.

6. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Henrico, in opposition thereto, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom was committed the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, in the county of Westmoreland, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," to receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the 1st resolution.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 2d, 3d and 4th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 5th resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of the minister and vestry of the parish of Bristol, in the county of Dinwiddie, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the latter may be authorised to sell the glebe land of the said parish, and apply the money arising therefrom to the purchase of other lands for the use of the minister.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Religion ; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Friday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty," with several amendments. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for paying a sum of money to Nicolson and Prentis. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, to whom was committed the bill "for providing for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth," be discharged from further proceeding thereon; and that the same be committed to Messrs. Thomas Smith, Simms, Matthews, Archibald Stuart, David Stuart, Temple, Read, Hunter and Patteson.

*Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Norvell, Watkins, Richard Lee, Ronald, Thornton, Walker, Underwood, Turberville, Tapscott, Patteson and Strother.

*Ordered*, That a message be sent to the Senate to inform them that this House have appointed a committee to examine the treasurer's accounts; and that if they please to appoint a committee of their House for the same purpose, both committees may proceed on the business together.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Norvell do carry the said message.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Banister, attorney in fact, for Bartholomew Bourgard, who was attorney in fact, for the widow and heirs of his brother James Bourgard, deceased, praying that funds may be provided for the payment of a liquidated claim due from the public to the estate of the said James Bourgard, deceased, for supplies furnished the troops of this State in the western country in the year 1779, amounting to 9,000 dollars, with the interest due thereon, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Catlett James, late a soldier in the continental line, praying relief from the public in consideration of a violent disorder which he contracted whilst in service, and which has rendered him unable to procure a livelihood by labor, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and allowed for his present relief one year's pension.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of John Archer, praying that the act of Assembly passed in the year 1784, entitled "an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge," which has expired, may be revived, is reasonable.

The 1st and 3d resolutions being severally read a second time were, upon the questions put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered*, That the 1st resolution do lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d resolution; and that the committee of Claims do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions

thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Carter, late a surgeon to the continental hospital in the city of Williamsburg, praying to be allowed a bounty in lands, is reasonable; it appearing to the committee, that the said Carter acted as surgeon from July 1776, to July 31st, 1781.

2. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Moss Armistead, administrator of the estate of Joseph Selden, praying that compensation may be made the said estate for a negro slave named Tom, which the committee of Safety ordered to the West Indies, and was there sold, is reasonable; and that the sum of 80*l.* ought to be allowed and paid by the public for the said slave.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the memorial of the officers late of the first and second State regiments, praying that the auditors of public accounts may issue to them warrants for half-pay yearly, during life, or a commutation in lieu thereof, and the payment secured to them, is reasonable.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the 2d resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the report upon the petition of Campbell and Simons was recommitteed, that the committee had, according to order, had the same again under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Alexander M'Kee, is indebted to John Campbell and Joseph Simons by bond, bearing date the 4th day of June, 1776, in the sum of 577*l.* 3*s.* Pennsylvania currency, exclusive of interest, and also the balance of 21*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* by an open account.

It further appears to your committee, that the said Alexander M'Kee was not possessed of any property, except two thousand acres of land, in the county of Fayette, which has been escheated and vested in the Commonwealth, and by the General Assembly given to the trustees of the Transylvania Seminary.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said John Campbell in behalf of himself and Joseph Simons, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the trustees of the said Seminary or any five of them, ought immediately after the expiration of one year from this time, to sell upon twelve months credit, so much of the lands of the said Alexander M'Kee so vested in them as aforesaid (taking bond with sufficient security for payment of the money) as will satisfy and pay all the just debts due from the said M'Kee, in equal proportions, which shall be notified to the said trustees, and proved according to law, within twelve months from this period.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive that the Assize Courts proposed to be established by a late act of Assembly, are not calculated for the speedy and easy administration of justice; and praying that the said act may be repealed, but if it should be carried into effect, that the court for the district of Loudoun, Fauquier, Fairfax and Prince William, may be held at the town of Alexandria, instead of Dumfries.

*Ordered,* That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, upon the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize.'"

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henrico, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have considered the bill "for establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" published by order of the last Assembly, and conceive that the same is unjust, partial and oppressive; and praying that the same may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Brunswick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Dinwiddie, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince George, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Powhatan, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Richmond, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry merchants and others, inhabitants of the town of Fredericksburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive the act passed in May 1784, "for restricting foreign vessels to cer-



tain ports within this Commonwealth;" as injurious and oppressive to many of the citizens, and ruinous in its consequences to the community; and praying that the same may be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established at Crow's Ferry in the said county.

Also, a petition of Edward Diggs; praying that he may be allowed a bounty of lands, in consideration of military services.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part called the Northern Neck," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, November 29, 1785.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lynch:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry." And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres, on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. James Garrard do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning the dower and jointures of widows;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the dower and jointures of widows."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent the circulation of private bank notes;" was read the third time, and amended at the clerk's table.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prevent the circulation of private bank notes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for the restitution of stolen goods;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the restitution of stolen goods."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for improving the breed of horses;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for improving the breed of horses."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee appointed to notify to Patrick Henry, Esq. his appointment to be Governor or Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth for one year, from the 13th day of the present month, that the committee had, according to order, waited on that gentleman, and notified the said appointment, to which he was pleased to return the following answer:

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg you will be pleased to return my best acknowledgments to the General Assembly, for the honor they have now done me, and to assure them that my best exertions shall not be wanting to promote the public good, in the honorable station to which they have again called me. The obliging manner in which you, gentlemen, have been pleased to make this communication from the Assembly, demands my thanks, which I beg you to accept."

Mr. Watkins presented, from the committee of Claims, according to order, a bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petition of James Hendricks, be discharged from further proceeding thereon; and that the same be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution, reported from the committee of Propositions and Grievances respecting the half pay of the officers of the 1st and 2d State regiments, which lay on the table; and the same being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the memorial of the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, praying that the auditors of public accounts, may issue to them warrants for half pay yearly during life, or a commutation in lieu thereof, and the payment be secured to them, is reasonable.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.*

Mr. Carrington presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "directing the sale of certain lands, late the property of John Mills, deceased, for payment of his debts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, praying that the said county may be divided into two distinct counties, by a line to begin at the North branch of Potomac, opposite the mouth of Savage river; thence a direct course so as to strike the upper end of the plantation known by the name of Myres's mill on New creek; thence a direct course to John Lewis's mill, on Patterson's creek; thence a direct course to the highest part of the mountain known by the name of the High Nob; thence a direct course to the gap of Shortarse mountain, where the North river runs through the same; thence along the road leading by the upper end of Henry Fry's plantation on Cape Capon, and along the said road to the top of the North mountain to the line dividing the counties of Hampshire and Shenandoah, is reasonable.*

2. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, praying that the same may be formed into three distinct counties, is reasonable.*

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That one of the counties to be formed out of the said county of Lincoln, be bounded by a line beginning at the confluence of Sugar creek and Kentucky river; thence proceeding direct line to the mouth of Clark's run; thence a straight line to Wilson's station in the fork of Clark's run; thence the same course continued to the line of Nelson county; thence with said line to the line of Jefferson county; thence with the said line to the Kentucky river; thence up the said river to the beginning.*

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the other of the counties to be formed out of the said county of Lincoln, be bounded as followeth: beginning at the confluence of Kentucky river and Sugar creek; thence up the said creek to the fork where James Thompson lives; thence up the said fork to the head thereof; thence a straight line to where an east course from John Elis's will intersect the top of the ridge that divides the waters of Paint Lick from the waters of Dick's river; thence along the top of the said ridge southwardly, opposite to Hickman's Lick; thence south 45 degrees east to the main Rock Castle river; thence up the said river to the head thereof; thence with the ridge that divides the waters of Kentucky river from the waters of Cumberland river, to the line of Washington county; thence along the said line to the fork of Kentucky river, that divides the county of Fayette from the county of Lincoln; thence down the said river to the beginning.*

*Ordered, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.*

Mr. Carrington presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, compelling county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for the preservation of the estates of idiots and lunatics." X  
And then he withdrew.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Spottsylvania, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have considered with attention the bill, published by order of the last Assembly, "for establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" and conceive it to be repugnant to the principles thereof, and incompatible with the happiness and interest of the community in general; and praying that the same may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fauquier, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Southampton, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect. X

Also, a memorial of the officers of the late Virginia line, on behalf of themselves and the soldiers of the said line; setting forth, that they have been informed that a petition of a convention of the people in Kentucky has been presented to this Assembly, praying that the said district may be separated from the other parts of the State, and estab-

lished an independent government; that if this should take place, the lands which they have received from the Legislature as a reward for the dangers and toils of a military life, and which they ever wished to hold under that government from which they received them, will be within the limits of the new State, contrary to their wishes; and praying that the said petition may be rejected.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of King George, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they consider the act "for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports," as highly prejudicial to the commerce of the State, and partial and oppressive to many of the citizens thereof; and praying that the same may be repealed, or if it should be carried into effect, that Port Royal may be established the port on Rappahannock river.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Simon Turner and John Turner, only surviving men of the Nansemond nation of Indians, was presented to the House, and read; praying that commissioners may be appointed to join them in the conveyance of a tract of land which they are desirous to sell, and to secure the payment of the purchase money.

Also, a petition of William Eskridge; setting forth, that a certain Mr. Scott purchased a tract of land, held in common by sundry persons, and died before a conveyance was made to him, leaving an only daughter, to whom the right to the said land descended, and who has since intermarried with the petitioner; that Alexander Wodrow, one of the persons of whom the purchase was made, is since dead, and his heir at law resides in the island of Great Britain; and praying that the administrator of the said Wodrow may be authorised to convey the said Alexander Wodrow's undivided part of the said land to the petitioner in right of his wife.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Alexander White reported, according to order, a resolution agreed to on yesterday, by the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and he read the same in his place and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, giving the Governor and Council powers in certain cases.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Alexander White, Corbin, and Richard Bland Lee, do prepare and bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Pittsylvania, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they conceive the act passed at the last session "for establishing Courts of Assize," will be attended with expenses greatly exceeding any benefit to be derived therefrom to the public; and praying that the said act may be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing Courts of Assize.'"

The House proceeded to consider the amendments agreed to by the committee of the whole House, to the bills, "concerning mill-dams and other obstructions of water courses;" "for unlading ballast and burial of dead bodies from on board ships;" and "concerning slaves;" which lay on the table; and the same being severally twice read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said bills, with the amendments, be severally engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had gone through the following bills, to wit:

A bill, "concerning servants."

A bill, "for apprehending and securing runaways."

A bill, "declaring what persons shall be deemed mulattoes."

A bill, "concerning aliens."

A bill, "declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred."

A bill, "directing what persons shall be let to bail."

A bill, "concerning guardians, infants, masters and apprentices."

A bill, "to enable guardians and committees to perform certain acts, for the benefit of those who are under their care;" to which said bills they had made several amendments, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bills, with the amendments, be severally engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "incorporating trustees for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle, in the county of Botetourt." And then he withdrew.

Mr. William Watkins reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Matthew Wills, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon,



which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Matthew Wills, setting forth, that in the year 1780, he purchased of a certain Benjamin Cluiviers of Gloucester county, 121 1-2 bushels of country made salt and cask, which was accordingly delivered at the town of York; that soon after the delivery of the said salt, it was impressed from him for public use, by the commissioner of the provision law at that place, whose certificate has entitled the petitioner to a warrant for the sum of 125*l*.; that the said impressment put it out of the petitioner's power to pay the purchase money for the said salt at the time when it became due, which failure occasioned a suit to be instituted and judgment obtained against him for the amount thereof, the payment of which, together with the costs, has greatly distressed the petitioner, by obliging him to sell several negroes, at a price far below their value; added to which, he should have made considerable profit on the sale of the said salt, but for the reason aforesaid; and praying relief from the public, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ridley have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to explain, amend and reduce into one act, an act, entitled 'an act, for the admission of emigrants, and declaring their rights to citizenship;' and "an act, prohibiting the migration of certain persons into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" and that Messrs. Carter Henry Harrison, Tyler, Jones, Briggs, Watkins, Eggleston and Stith, do prepare bring in the same.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that part thereof may be taken off and formed into a distinct county.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, whose names are thereunto subscribed, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established at the confluence of the North and South branches of the Potomac river.

Also, a petition of sundry officers of the State line and State navy; praying that funds may be provided for the payment of their half pay; and that all the impediments to their surveying the lands granted them as bounties, may be removed.

Also, a petition of William White; setting forth, that during the late war, he received several sums of public money, as county lieutenant of Louisa, the vouchers for the disbursement of which were destroyed whilst the enemy were in that county in the year 1781; and praying that he may be permitted to prove the said disbursements by his own oath.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the act of Assembly, which authorises the owners of slaves to emancipate them, may be repealed.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Halifax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that an act may pass for establishing the town of Harrodsburg, agreeably to a plan accompanying the said petition.

Also, a petition of James Hogan; praying that an act may pass, for establishing a public ferry across Kentucky river, from his lands in the county of Lincoln to his lands on the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Campbell, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that commissioners may be appointed to ascertain the centre of the said county; and that the courthouse and other public buildings, may be built thereat.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That no petitions or memorials be received in this House, after Saturday se'nnight.

*Ordered*, That the further report from the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, upon the resolutions agreed to yesterday respecting Commerce, be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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### WEDNESDAY, November 30, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for licensing and regulating taverns;" was read the time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for licensing and regulating taverns."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for preventing infection of the horned cattle;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for preventing infection of the horned cattle."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning public roads;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning public roads."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by

the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "directing the sale of certain lands late the property of John Mills, deceased, for payment of his debts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Simms, David Stuart, Coles, Thompson and Strother.

A bill, "to amend and explain an act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, compelling county court clerks to reside in the county, and to prevent them from removing the records out of the same, and for other purposes,'" was read the second time; and the question being put, that the said bill be engrossed, and read the third time;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Joshua Fry have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

Mr. Alexander White reported, according to order, a resolution agreed to by the committee of the whole House, on Monday last, respecting commerce, and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

Whereas, the relative situation of the United States, has been found on trial, to require uniformity in their commercial regulations, as the only effectual policy for obtaining in the ports of foreign nations, a stipulation of privileges reciprocal to those enjoyed by the subjects of such nations in the ports of the United States, for preventing animosities which cannot fail to arise among the several States, from the interference of partial and separate regulations; and whereas, such uniformity can be best concerted, and carried into effect, by the federal councils, which having been instituted for the purpose of managing the interests of the States, in cases which cannot so well be provided for by measures individually pursued, ought to be invested with authority in this case, as being within the reason and policy of their institution;

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates representing this Commonwealth in Congress, be instructed to propose in Congress, a recommendation to the States in Union, to authorise that Assembly to regulate their trade on the following principles, and under the following qualifications:

1st. That the United States in Congress assembled, be authorised to prohibit vessels belonging to any foreign nation, from entering any of the ports thereof, or to impose any duties on such vessels and their cargoes, which may be judged necessary; all such prohibitions and duties to be uniform throughout the United States, and the proceeds of the latter to be carried into the treasury of the State within which they shall accrue.

2d. That no State be at liberty to impose duties on any goods, wares, or merchandizes, imported by land or by water from any other State, but may altogether prohibit the importation from any State of any particular species or description of goods, wares or merchandize, of which the importation is at the same time prohibited from all other places whatsoever.

3d. That no act of Congress that may be authorised as hereby proposed, shall be entered into by less than two thirds of the confederated States, nor be in force longer than thirteen years.

A motion was made, and the question being put, to amend the resolution, by adding to the end thereof, the following words, to wit: "unless continued by a like proportion of votes within one year immediately preceding the expiration of the said period, or be revived in like manner after the expiration thereof;"

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 28.

Noes, 79.

On a motion made by Mr. Turberville, and seconded by Mr. Watkins;

*Ordered*, That that the names of the ayes and noes on the question to agree to the said amendment, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Joseph Eggleston, Zachariah Johnston, Michael Bowyer, Moses Hunter, Archibald Stuart, John Tyler, Henry Southall, French Strother, Henry Fry, Charles Simms, David Stuart, Thomas Smith, junior, George Clendinnen, Isaac Coles, William Norvell, William Walker, William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Robert Sayres, Griffin Stith, James Madison, jun. William Mayo, John Bowyer, George Thompson, Nathaniel Nelson, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, the honorable Benjamin Harrison, esquire, Speaker; Samuel Sherwin, Samuel Jordan Cabell, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, Philip Pendleton, George Hancock, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clarke, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, Edmund Read, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, Joseph Jones, Miles King, Worlich Westwood, William Gatewood, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, Christopher Greenup, James Garrard, Elias Wills, Charles Myun Thrus-ton, Alexander White, Andrew Donnelly, Edmund Wilkins, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmiter, Garland Anderson, George Jackson, John Prunty, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun., John Dillard, John Rentfro, John Scasbrook Wills, Robert Marshall, John Roberts, William Dudley, Benjamin Temple, James Tapscott, Francis Peyton, Christopher Robertson, Samuel Garland, John Edwards, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, David Scott, Daniel Trigg, Willis Riddick, William Hartwell Macon, Willis Wilson, Daniel Sandford, Abraham Beachum, Charles Porter, Wm. Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, John Clarke, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carré Brent, George Lee Turberville, Andrew Moore, Gawin Hamilton, John Taylor, John Whitaker Willis, William Gar-



rard, Carter Bassett Harrison, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Cary, Wilson Cary, Andrew Kincannon and Joseph Prentis.

And then the said resolution being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Alexander White reported, according to order, a resolution agreed to by the committee of the whole House on Monday last, respecting commerce; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That an act ought to pass, prohibiting the importation of the growth or produce of the British West India Islands, or their settlements on this continent, in foreign bottoms, from and after the day of next, until the Congress of the United States shall have completed a treaty of commerce with Great Britain, or settled some general plan for the regulation of the commerce of the United States.

*Ordered*, That the said resolution do lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill, “to prevent losses by pirates, enemies, and others, on the high seas,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, to the bill “directing the course of descents.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 1, 1785.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate for their examination.

On a motion made to the following effect:

That the resolution reported from the committee of the whole House, and agreed to by the House on yesterday, containing instructions to the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, respecting commerce, does not, from a mistake, contain the sense of the majority of this House that voted for the said resolution;

*Ordered, therefore*, That the direction to send the said resolution to the Senate for their concurrence, be rescinded; and that this House do immediately resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to reconsider the said resolution;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 60.

Noes, 33.

On a motion made by Mr. Thomson, and seconded by Mr. Matthews;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the said question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, Hugh Rose, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Anthony New, Edmund Read, Henry Southall, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, Joseph Jones, Worlich Westwood, William Gatewood, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, Christopher Greenup, Elias Wills, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, Thomas Underwood, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vaumitter, Garland Anderson, John Prunty, John Rentfro, William Walker, William Dudley, Benjamin Temple, James Tapscott, Daniel Trigg, Willis Riddick, Griffin Suth, Abraham Beachum, David Bradford, James Madison, jun. William Harrison, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carrol Brent, George Lee Turberville, Andrew Moore, Gawin Hamilton, Carter Bassett Harrison, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Cary, Wilson Cary, Andrew Kincannon, Samuel Garland, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, William Curtis, David Scott, Joseph Prentis and James Innes.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Joseph Eggleston, Zachariah Johnston, Robert Clarke, Moses Hunter, Philip Pendleton, Archibald Stuart, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Tyler, David Patteson, French Strother, Henry Fry, Miles King, George Thomson, Alexander White, Edmund Wilkins, George Jackson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, William Norvell, John Scasbrook Wills, William Thornton, Francis Peyton, Richard Lee, Thomas Pettus, William Pettijohn, William Hartwell Macon, Willis Wilson, Daniel Sandford, John Bowyer, John Tyler, William Garrard, Nathaniel Nelson and Thomas Matthews.

The House then accordingly resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the said resolution; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said resolution under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.



*Ordered*, That the said report do lie on the table.

An engrossed bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning mill-dams, and other obstructions of water courses;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning mill-dams, and other obstructions of water courses."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for unlading ballast, and burial of dead bodies from on board ships." was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for unlading ballast, and burial of dead bodies from on board ships."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning servants;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning servants."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for apprehending and securing runaways;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for apprehending and securing runaways."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Hampshire;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "directing the sale of certain public lands, late the property of Alexander McKee, for payment of his debts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Matthews reported, according to order, the amendments agreed to in the committee of the whole House on Friday last, to the bill "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for the taxes due for the present year until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Underwood presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, 'for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Alexander White presented, according to order, a bill "giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Underwood presented, according to order, a bill "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Archibald Stuart presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to discharge George Taylor and James Madison, Esquires, from further proceeding on the trust reposed in them by an act of the Legislature;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Lunenburg, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have considered the bill "for establishing a provision for the teachers of the christian religion;" published by order of the last Assembly, and highly disapprove of the same, as contrary to the principles of religious freedom; and praying that the same may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Loudoun, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Stafford, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Henrico, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria," and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to prevent losses by pirates, enemies and others, on the high seas;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Prentis presented, according to order, a bill "to vest certain lots in the town of York, in trustees for certain purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Campbell, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read, in opposition to a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said county presented on Tuesday last; praying that commissioners might be appointed to ascertain the centre of the said county.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Robert Twiford, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the auditors may be directed to grant him a warrant of a similar nature with one which he accidentally lost.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Tuesday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 2, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing what prisoners shall be let to bail;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing what prisoners shall be let to bail."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "declaring what persons shall be deemed mulattoes;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, declaring what persons shall be deemed mulattoes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "concerning aliens;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning aliens."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for the taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for the taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for dividing the county of Hampshire;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "directing the sale of certain lands late the property of Alexander M'Kee, for payment of his debts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Bullitt, Hunter, Tyler, Meriwether Smith, David Stuart, Willis Riddick, Pendleton and Innes.

A bill, "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House on Monday next.

A bill, "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Madison, Strother, Archibald Stuart, Alexander White, Richard Bland Lee, and Stith.

A bill, "to discharge George Taylor and James Madison, Esquires, from further proceeding on the trust reposed in them by an act of the Legislature;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for vesting certain lots in the town of York in trustees, for certain purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" and after some time spent therein,

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "authorising the Governor, with the advice of Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases;" and that Messrs. Matthews, William Watkins, Tyler, Archibald Stuart, and Prentis, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Harrison;" and that Messrs. Prunty, Jackson, Scott, Pettijohn, Bradford and Shepherd, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 3, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Hampshire;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dividing the county of Hampshire."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the sale of certain lands, late the property of Alexander McKee, for the payment of his debts;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the sale of certain lands, late the property of Alexander McKee, for the payment of his debts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to discharge George Taylor and James Madison, from further proceeding on the trust reposed in them by an act of the Legislature;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to discharge George Taylor and James Madison, from further proceeding on the trust reposed in them by an act of the Legislature."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to vest certain lots in the town of York in trustees, for certain purposes;" was read the third time; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

An engrossed bill, "concerning guardians, infants, masters, and apprentices;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning guardians, infants, masters and apprentices."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for improving the breed of horses;" "to prevent the circulation of private bank notes;" "concerning escheats;" "to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for completing a church in the borough of Winchester, and re-building a church in the parish of Elizabeth river, in the county of Norfolk;" and "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of five shillings per hundred acres on lands granted by patent, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom.'" And then he withdrew.

Mr. Matthews presented, according to order, a bill "empowering the Governor, with the advice of Council, to



grant conditional pardons, in certain cases;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for paying certain sums of money to Moss Armistead, administrator of Joseph Selden, deceased, and Harry Innes, and respecting the salaries of the assistant judges of the Supreme Court for the Kentucky district. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received on Monday next.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to sell certain public lands;" and that Messrs. Thomson, Garrard and Bradford, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to add that part of Yohogania county above Cross Creek and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and Ohio river, to Ohio county; and that Messrs. Bradford, Scott and Pettijohn, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prunty presented, according to order, a bill "for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize,'" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees," and for other purposes, being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 5, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "concerning slaves;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning slaves."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to enable guardians and committees to perform certain acts for the benefit of those who are under their care;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to enable guardians and committees to perform certain acts for the benefit of those who are under their care."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-day.

A bill, "for establishing the town of Clarksburg in the county of Harrison;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Henry Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also, they have agreed to the bills "concerning aliens;" "concerning mill-dams and other obstructions of water courses;" "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth for the taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, to appoint Commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge;" and "declaring what persons shall be deemed mulattoes." And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed, to which the several requisitions of Congress made to and depending before this Assembly be referred; and that the said committee do report their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Mercer, Tyler, Madison, Zane, and Alexander White.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing sundry letters from the delegates of this State in Congress, and from the Secretary of that body; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee to whom are referred the several requisitions from Congress.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the honorable Benjamin Waller, Esq. containing a resignation of his office, as a judge of the Court of Admiralty; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the public printer be directed to strike immediately 200 copies of the act, "to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for the taxes due for the present year, until March next, and admitting facilities in payment thereof;" that the same may be dispersed throughout the country as soon as possible.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for regulating conveyances," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to a resolution for staying execution upon a judgment obtained by the solicitor general against John Moffet. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to discharge George Taylor and James Madison, from further proceeding on the trust reposed in them by an act of the Legislature;" "directing what prisoners shall be let to bail," and declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "providing that wrongful alienations of land shall be void, so far as they be wrongful." And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend and explain the act, entitled 'an act, directing the sale of certain public lands, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, two resolutions agreed to on Monday last, upon the subject of commerce; and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That no vessel trading to this State, other than such as are wholly owned by American citizens, or the subjects of kingdoms or States having commercial treaties with the American States, shall be permitted to bring in any goods, wares, or merchandizes, not the produce or manufacture of the kingdom or State to which she shall belong.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That for the encouragement of ship building in this State, a drawback of per centum on the duties which are or may be imposed on all goods, wares, or merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, shall be allowed to the citizens of this State, or any of the United States, importing such goods, wares, or merchandizes, in Virginia built vessels which shall be wholly owned by such citizens.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the above resolutions; and also, to a resolution agreed to on Wednesday last upon the subject of commerce, which lay on the table; and that the committee of Commerce, do prepare and bring in the same.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates of the State of Maryland, enclosing an act and sundry resolutions of the Legislature, respecting the jurisdiction and navigation of the rivers Potomac and Pocomoke; which were read.

*Ordered*, That the said resolutions be referred to the committee of Commerce.

*Ordered*, That the rest of the said papers do lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to prevent frauds and perjuries," and "for restitution of stolen goods," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer be added to the committees of Privileges and Elections, Commerce, and Propositions and Grievances.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for restitution of stolen goods;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for regulating conveyances;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to order, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "empowering the Governor, with the advice of Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same and made several amendments there-

to, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents, due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck to the proprietor;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of Auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" "for punishing certain offences and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Friday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 6, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "empowering the Governor, with advice of Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for ascertaining the boundary between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Lincoln into three distinct counties;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to establish a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to repeal in part, the act 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators," with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, inquired into the eligibility of Mr. Archibald Stuart, a member returned to serve in the House of Delegates, for the county of Botetourt, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Stuart, that subsequent to his election in the year 1783, and in the year 1784, he spent the greatest part of his time, when he was in the upper part of the country, in the county of Botetourt: that soon after the rising of the last Assembly, he went to the said county, where he resided until the 1st Tuesday in March, when his business required his attendance at the court of Rockbridge county; that from thence he repaired to the court of Augusta county, in Staunton, where he remained until he came to Richmond, for the purpose of attending the General Court; that since the last election he has chiefly resided in Staunton; that he was never enrolled in the militia of any county since he left the seminary at which he finished his education, nor has he ever returned a list of his property; that he should certainly have offered himself as a candidate for Augusta county at the last election if he had not considered himself as a resident of Botetourt; that on the day of the election in the county of Botetourt, in the year 1785, a deed was made to him for an unimproved lot of land in the town of Botetourt, which was that day recorded; that some time previous to the last election, a surveyor's plat of one hundred and eighty-five acres of land in the county of Botetourt, was assigned to him for a valuable consideration, which was lodged in the register's office in the month of April last.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. John Bowyer, that he was informed by several of the inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, that Mr. Stuart was neither a freeholder nor resident in the said county at the time of the last election; and that he had never returned a list of his taxable property in the said county.



It further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Michael Bowyer, that during the sitting of the last Assembly, Mr. Stuart informed him he had rented a room of Mrs. Burns, in the town of Staunton, where he intended to reside, and wished to be one of the delegates for the county of Augusta, if the informant resigned when he returned from the Assembly; that in the month of March last, he was informed by Mrs. Burns that she had rented a room to Mr. Stuart.

It also further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Patrick Lockhart, who was high sheriff of the county of Botetourt at the last election, that at the last Assembly, Mr. Stuart informed him he intended, during the recess of the Assembly, to reside in the town of Fincastle, in the county of Botetourt, and requested the informant would furnish him with a room, which he agreed to do, but as Mr. Stuart did not afterwards apply, he rented it to another person; that Mr. Stuart was never enrolled in the militia of the said county of Botetourt, nor did he ever return a list of his taxable property; and that he never considered him as a resident.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Archibald Stuart, was incapable of being elected a delegate, to serve in this present General Assembly, for the said county of Botetourt.

The said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for paying a sum of money to John Starke, sen. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to enable guardians and committees to perform certain acts for the benefit of those who are under their care.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, examined the certificates of the election of delegates returned to serve in this present General Assembly, compared the same with the form prescribed by law, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the certificates of the election of delegates returned to serve in this present General Assembly, for the counties of Accomac, Albemarle, Amherst, Bedford, Berkeley, Buckingham, Campbell, Caroline, Charlotte, Charles City, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Gloucester, Goochland, Greenville, Hampshire, Hanover, James City, Isle of Wight, King George, King and Queen, King William, Lancaster, Loudoun, Lunenburg, Nansamond, Norfolk, Northampton, Northumberland, Orange, Pittsylvania, Powhatan, Princess Anne, Prince Edward, Prince William, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Southampton, Spottsylvania, Surry, Sussex, Warwick, Washington, Westmoreland, and of a delegate for the city of Williamsburg, and borough of Norfolk, are made in the form prescribed by law.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the certificates of the election of delegates returned to serve in this present General Assembly, for the counties of Amelia, Augusta, Brunswick, Culpeper, Dinwiddie, Elizabeth City, Essex, Fauquier, Fairfax, Fayette, Greenbrier, Halifax, Harrison, Henrico, Henry, Jefferson, Lincoln, Louisa, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, Montgomery, Monongalia, New Kent, Ohio, Prince George, Richmond, Shenandoah and Stafford, are not made in the form prescribed by law.

*Ordered,* That the clerk do amend at the table, such of the said returns as are defective only in point of form.

*Ordered,* That such of the said returns as are defective in point of substance, do lie on the table.

Mr. Smith reported, from the committee to whom the bill “to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth” was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the said bill, with the amendment, be recommitted to Messrs. Thomas Smith, Simms, Matthews, Archibald Stuart, David Stuart, Temple, Read, Hunter, Patteson, Alexander White, Thompson, and Meriwether Smith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “concerning the dower and jointures of widows.” And then he withdrew.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Dillard have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Saturday se'nnight; Mr. Porter until this day fortnight; and Mr. Read till Thursday week.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill “to amend the several acts, ‘concerning naval officers, and the duties payable on goods imported into this Commonwealth;’ and that Messrs. Tyler, White, Wilson Cary, and Archibald Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had gone through the following bills, to wit:

A bill, "for the more general diffusion of knowledge."

A bill, "for the restraint, maintenance, and cure of persons not sound in mind."

A bill, "for registering births and deaths;" to which said bills, they had made several amendments, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said Revised Code.

A petition of William Murray, was presented to the House, and read; praying that his accounts for supplies furnished by him to the troops which were sent by the State into the Illinois country, may be liquidated; and that the balance which may be found due, may be paid to him.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the recorder of the borough of Winchester, on behalf of the Common Hall of the said borough, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the jurisdiction of the Court of Hustings, may be enlarged.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 7, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for ascertaining the boundary between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill, "to establish a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Bradford, Simms, Prunty, Jackson and Shepherd.

A bill, "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Friday next.

A bill, "for dividing the county of Lincoln into three distinct counties;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Jackson, Logan, Roberts, Greenup and Garrard.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for preventing infection of horned cattle," with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the report upon the petition of Henry Banks was recommended, that the committee had, according to order, had the same again under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that James Hawkins, on the 23d day of December 1783, (two days preceding a resolution of the General Assembly was to take effect directing no more treasury land warrants should be issued) paid into the treasury 266,075*l.* paper currency value, on account of sundry specie warrants and certificates amounting to 266*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* applied to the purchase of unappropriated lands; that on the same day, the said Hawkins obtained the auditor's certificate entitling him to 166,296 acres of waste and unappropriated lands, which certificate was assigned by the said Hawkins to the said Henry Banks, who made application to the register of the Land Office for a warrant, after the time had expired in which he was authorised to issue them.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Henry Banks, is reasonable; and that the register of the Land Office ought to issue warrants to the said Henry Banks, for 166,296 acres of waste and unappropriated lands.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

A petition of William Augustine Washington and Thomas Russell, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they are members of the company called the Principio Company, all of whom, except the petitioners, are inhabitants of the island of Great Britain; that 200 acres of land, part of a large tract in the county of Stafford, belonging to the said company were, upon the petition of James Hunter, Esq. vested in him by the Legislature, for

the purpose of erecting thereon certain iron works, which he hath failed to do; and praying that the said 200 acres of land may be re-vested in the said company, and that commissioners may be appointed to allot to the petitioners their shares of all the said company's lands in this Commonwealth.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “concerning guardians, infants, masters and apprentices,” with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said Revised Code under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said Revised Code.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Meriwether Smith, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill or bills, “to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws ‘declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;’” and “for the admission of emigrants, and prohibiting the migration of certain persons into this Commonwealth.”

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee to whom the bill “for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life” was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendment, do lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 8, 1785.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for licensing and regulating taverns,” with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and to the bill “to amend the several acts of Assembly, concerning the appointment of sheriffs,” with several amendments; to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “for preventing infection of horned cattle;” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “concerning guardians, infants, masters and apprentices;” and the same being read, some were agreed to, others amended and agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “to amend the several acts of Assembly ‘concerning the appointment of sheriffs;’” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendment proposed by this House to their amendments to the bill “concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators;” and they do insist upon their amendments disagreed to by this House to the said bill. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth insist upon their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “concerning wills, the distribution of intestates' estates, and the duty of executors and administrators.” And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments to the bill, “for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life,” which lay on the table; and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.



Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

1. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, praying that an act may pass, to establish a warehouse for the reception and inspection of tobacco at the confluence of the North and South branches of Potomac river, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Bedford, Campbell, and Amherst, praying that an inspection of tobacco, hemp and flour, may be established at Lynch's Ferry, is reasonable.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of Smyth Tandy, praying that an act may pass for establishing a town on his lands in the county of Amherst, known by the name of New Glasgow, is reasonable.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of Edward Digges, praying to be allowed the portion of land given by law to a captain serving three years, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale in the county of Westmoreland, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses pursuant to the 1st and 2d resolutions.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases," with an amendment, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, was amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

1. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Hampshire, praying that an act may pass to remove the present, as well as to prevent any future stops to navigation or the passage of fish, which have been or may be placed or fixed in the South branch of Potomac river, from the mouth thereof upwards, to the mouth of the north fork of the said river, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Hampshire, praying that the owners of mills erected across the South branch of Potomac, may be compelled to fix slopes or passes in their mill-dams, as well for the passage of fish as for boats, is reasonable.

3. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of William White, praying that he may be allowed to settle his account upon oath, for the expenditure of the public money put into his hands as county lieutenant of Louisa, the receipts and vouchers for which were lost in the invasion of this State by Lord Cornwallis, is reasonable.

4. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of James Hogan, praying that a ferry may be established from his land in the county of Lincoln, across the Kentucky river, to his land in the county of Fayette, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d and 4th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the 3d resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mercer reported, from the committee to whom the several requisitions of Congress were referred, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth :

It appears to your committee, that the sums of specie credited to this State, by return from the continental board of treasury under the requisition of 1784, amount to 160,982 dollars, consequently this State becomes entitled to a credit of 53,660 dollars paper, under the said requisition; that all credits for such paper certificates expire on the last day of the year current, and the citizens of this State will be deprived of all benefit from the large advances of the State in specie; that the whole amount of facilities payable under the said requisition issued in this State, appears by a return of the Loan Officer to be 32,186 dollars, a sum which does not much exceed one half of what this State would already be entitled to a credit for, under the payments made in specie; that by a certificate from the treasurer, it appears that he has now in his hands so much of this State's quota to the United States, as is equal to all the facilities issued, payable in the said requisition.

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to exchange 32,186 dollars of this State's quota to the United States, for the amount thereof in certificates, for interest due upon the continental Loan Office certificates

issued in this State, and for the liquidated debts of the citizens of this State and signed by John Hopkins, which have been issued up to the 7th of December current; and that he pay the same, or so much thereof, as he can procure, on or before the 1st of January 1786, to the continental Loan Officer in discharge of this State's quota to the United States.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning slaves," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A petition of Leonard Cowper, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that in the year 1779, when engaged in the service of his country as a captain in the Virginia line, he was treated in an ignominious manner by an officer of the same line, and was compelled, to avoid the contempt of his brother officers, to challenge the aggressor; that, in a duel which ensued, the petitioner received a wound, which occasioned the loss of a leg, which has rendered him incapable of supporting himself; and praying to be put on the list of pensioners.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice, being read:

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, December 9, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" was read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill be recommitted to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning servants," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they have agreed to the amendment proposed by this House to their amendment to the bill "concerning guardians, infants, masters and apprentices;" also, they have agreed to the amendment proposed by this House, to their amendment to the bill "for licensing and regulating tavern keepers," and they do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the said bill. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "concerning servants;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Lincoln, praying that the township or village known by the name of Harrodsburg, in the said county, may be vested in trustees and established a town, is reasonable.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such of the inhabitants of the said township, who were resident therein on the 1st day of June 1779, and have resided therein ever since, and who have not obtained certificates for settlements and pre-emptious from the commissioners appointed to adjust the claims to unpatented lands, ought to retain their possessions: *Provided*, such possessions shall not exceed half an acre for each family as an in-lot, and ten acres for an out-lot.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the money arising from the sale of the residue of the lands in the said towship, ought to be paid by the trustees into the public treasury.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Nathaniel Friesby and Luther Stoddert, praying that they may be permitted to purchase refused tobacco for the purpose of manufacturing the same, is reasonable.

5. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Bote-



tourt, praying that an inspection of tobacco may be established on the lands of William Crow, in the said county, is reasonable.

6. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of Andrew Jee, praying that a ferry may be established from his land in the county of Monongalia, over Cheat river to the lands of Jacob Scott on the opposite shore, is reasonable.

7. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of Thomas Butler, praying that a ferry may be established from his lands in the county of Monongalia to his lands on the opposite shore, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 6th and 7th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the 5th and 6th resolutions.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "concerning slaves;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for clearing and improving the navigation of Appomattox river;" and that Messrs. Eggleston, Bibb, Barksdale and Sherwin, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Prentiss reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of George Taylor, James Taylor and Joseph Jones, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioners, with the late Colonel Fielding Lewis, of Fredericksburg, were by an act of Assembly, passed in the year 1778, appointed trustees to sell certain lands whereof John Thornton of the county of Caroline died seized, and vest the money arising therefrom in the purchase of other lands, for the use of his co-heirs, his daughters who were living, and the representatives of those who were dead; such purchases of land for the minors to be with the consent and approbation of their parents, Mr. Samuel Washington and Mr. John Lewis; and that the trustees were by the said act directed to settle their accounts with the court of the county of Caroline: that the trustees proceeded to sell the lands at public auction, in the presence of all the parties interested, when the whole were purchased by General Woodford and Colonel John Taliaferro, who intermarried with two of the daughters of the said John Thornton: that the trustees and parents of the minors, were, from the rapid depreciation of the paper money, prevented from purchasing lands for the benefit of the minors agreeably to the directions of the act; and the purchase money, which was not received by the trustees until the year 1781, was at length, in pursuance of the act for funding the paper money, deposited in the treasury: that the trustees being from these circumstances unable fully to execute the trust reposed in them, are desirous of a speedy and final settlement of their accounts; and that they may be discharged from the said trust, saving to the minors any claim they may have in law or equity for redress against the purchasers of the said lands, which request not being opposed by the parties interested, your committee came to the following resolution:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said George Taylor, James Taylor and Joseph Jones, praying that commissioners may be appointed to settle their accounts, and that they may be authorised to assign the securities, and pay the monies in their hands to Messrs. Thornton Washington and John Lewis, as guardians of Mildred Lewis, and be discharged from the said trust, is reasonable; *Provided*, that such assignment and discharge shall not prejudice any claim the said Thornton Washington and Mildred Lewis, may have in law or equity, against the purchasers of the said lands.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate disagree to the amendment proposed by this House to their amendment to the bill "empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, to grant conditional pardons, in certain cases;" and they do adhere to the said amendment. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to keep certain roads in repair;" and that Messrs. Simms, David Stuart, Strother, Watkins, Bullitt, White, Thruston, Jones, Zane and Brent, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it has been represented to this House, that James Berwick, late a lieutenant in the eighth Virginia regiment on continental establishment, entered into the service of this State in the year 1776, and continued in the service of this State in various military employments, until the year 1780; but the said James Berwick, not having continued in the line the term of three years, he is precluded from obtaining from the register's office, a warrant for the quantity of lands allowed to officers of his rank who continued to serve in the line for the term of three years; and whereas, it appears to this House to be just and reasonable, that the said James Berwick should be allowed the same bounty in lands as is allowed to a lieutenant who continued to serve in the line for the term of three years, he having served in several military employments for a much longer term;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the register of the Land Office be directed to issue to the said James Berwick, a war-



rant for a first lieutenant's proportion of land, to be located in the district appropriated to the use of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr Carter Henry Harrison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for dividing the county of Hampshire," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A petition of James Anderson, was presented to the House, and read; praying that funds may be provided for the payment of the warrants granted him for his services as armourer to the State, during the late war.

Also, a petition of John Gunn and others; setting forth, that sundry lots in the city of Richmond, belonging to the petitioners, have been taken for the use of the public in pursuance of the act "for the removal of the seat of government;" and praying that the amount of the valuation of the said lots, may be paid to them.

Also, a petition of Henry Banks; setting forth, that in the year 1783, he purchased a large quantity of flour from the public treasurer, the greatest part of which he could not procure from the inspectors; and praying that the value thereof may be paid to him.

Also, a petition of John Washington, late high sheriff of Westmoreland county; praying that he may be allowed further time to collect the certificate tax for the year 1783; and that the interest and damages upon a judgment obtained against him for the amount thereof, may be remitted.

Also, a petition of Martin Baker; praying that he may be allowed rent for a house in the town of Richmond, which was taken by Major Hamilton in the year 1781, for the use of the public.

Also, a petition of Foster Webb; praying that he may be permitted to pay into the public treasury, the balance of the paper money remaining in his hands, which he received as pay-master-general of the State, during the late war.

Also, a petition of Burges Ball, late a lieutenant colonel in the Virginia line; praying that he may be permitted to account upon oath, for a sum of money which he received from the public in the year 1780, for the purpose of recruiting, and which fell into the enemy's hands.

Also, a petition of John Ball, merchant, late of the Island of St. Eustatius; praying that he may be paid for the ship *Renown*, with her cargo, which was impressed into the service of the public in the year 1781, and which was soon after captured by the enemy.

Also, a petition of George Pickett; setting forth, that in the year 1783, he purchased a large quantity of hemp, of the agent appointed to sell the specifics then received into the treasury, but could not procure a great part of it from the inspectors; and praying that the value may be repaid to him.

Also, a petition of the administratrix of Joel Mohun, deceased; praying that the treasurer may be directed to pay the amount of a warrant which was granted to her deceased husband for services rendered to the public.

Also, a petition of Peter Rezard de Wouves Darges; setting forth, that in the month of August last, a negro fellow, the property of Monsieur Vigo, was condemned to suffer death by the court of Jefferson county, and was valued at 80*l*.; but before the day of execution arrived, he made his escape from jail, and was soon after killed by the Indians; that he purchased the certificate of the valuation for a valuable consideration; and praying that the amount thereof, may be paid to him.

Also, a petition of Robert Patterson; praying that the public may reimburse him for a sum of money by him expended in the year 1781, in hiring scouts to watch the approach of the Indians in Kentucky.

Also, a petition of John Campbell and Daniel Joseph; praying that they may receive immediate payment of a certificate granted them by the auditors for a large number of cattle which they had purchased in the year 1781, and which were immediately impressed by the commissioners of Augusta county, for the use of the army.

Also, a petition of William Hopkins and Richard Graves, inspectors of tobacco at Littlepage's warehouses, in New Kent county; setting forth, that in the month of May last, the warehouses were broken open, and a quantity of tobacco stolen therefrom; and praying that the same may be reimbursed to them by the public.

Also, a petition of Thomas Hunt and William Meredith, inspectors of tobacco at Indian and Dymer's warehouses; setting forth, that in the month of July last, the warehouses were broken open and a quantity of tobacco stolen therefrom; and praying that the same may be reimbursed to them by the public.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of New Kent, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the inspection of tobacco, formerly established at Littlepage's in the said county, which has been discontinued, may be revived.

Also, a petition of the executors of General Hugh Mercer, deceased; praying that a small tract of land, of which the said Mercer died seized, on the river Rappahannock, may be laid off into lots and streets, and established as a town.

Also, a petition of David Crews; praying that he may be authorised to keep a public ferry across the Kentucky river, from his lands in the county of Lincoln, to the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of the president and directors of the company established for opening the navigation of the river Potomac; praying that the act for opening the said river, so far as it relates to the depth of the canals to be cut, may be amended.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince William, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that a more direct road than that now used, may be opened from Ashby's Gap, in the Blue Ridge, to Dumfries.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they have been, from various causes, unable to pay their proportion of the public taxes since the termination of the war; and praying that they may be permitted to discharge part of the arrears in labor, by opening a road from the highest navigable waters of James River, to the falls of the great Kanawha.

Also, a petition of the commissioners appointed for apportioning the lands allotted to the Illinois regiment; praying that the act, under which they acted, may be continued and amended.

Also, a petition of the merchants, traders and other inhabitants of the town of Petersburg; setting forth, that they conceive the salaries at present allowed to the inspectors of tobacco, are not adequate to their trouble; and praying that the same may be enlarged, and that the inspection law may be amended.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the same may be divided into two distinct counties.

Also, a petition of sundry other inhabitants of the said county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, in opposition thereto.

Also, a petition of John Campbell, on behalf of himself and Joseph Simons; setting forth, that by several acts of Assembly, the trustees of the town of Louisville, were directed to sell sundry lots in the said town, and apply the money arising therefrom to the discharge of a mortgage which the petitioners held upon the land, which they have failed to do; and praying that commissioners may be appointed to sell the said lots, and pay off the petitioner's debts.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Essex, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that by the operation of the late inspection law, the inspections of tobacco at Hobb's Hole and Bowler's, in the said county, will be discontinued, without the interposition of the Legislature, as a sufficient quantity of tobacco was not received to defray the expenses; and praying that the same may be continued.

Also, a petition of William Anderson; setting forth, that in the year 1778, an act passed, authorising the petitioner to keep a public ferry from his land in Botetourt county, across James river to the opposite shore, since which period, the court of the said county have authorised William Crow to keep a ferry from his land across the said river, to the land of the petitioner, to his great prejudice; and praying that the last mentioned ferry may be discontinued.

Also, a petition of William Crow, in opposition thereto.

Also, a petition of John Campbell; praying that a town may be established upon his land, opposite the lower falls of the river Ohio; and that the petitioner may also be authorised to keep a public ferry across the said river.

Also, a petition of the president and directors of the James River Company; setting forth, that they conceive, that the words of the act for opening the navigation of the said river, so far as they respect the extent to which the navigation is to be carried, are vague and uncertain; and praying that the same may be more expressly defined; and that they may be authorised to enlarge the number of shares, to borrow money on interest, and to make such regulations as they may think proper, with respect to the depth of the canals which are to be cut.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Washington, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that the same may be divided into two distinct counties.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockbridge, whose names are thereunto subscribed; praying that a part of the said county, agreeably to the bounds therein mentioned, may be added to the county of Botetourt.

Also, a petition of Bernard Gratz, Joseph Simons, Edmund Mills and Michael Gratz; setting forth, that previous to the late revolution, a certain George Croghan, being largely indebted to the petitioners, conveyed to them sundry tracts of lands which he had purchased of the Chiefs of the Six Nations, about 30 years ago, and which purchase was ratified by the said Chiefs, at a treaty held at Fort Stanwix in 1768; and praying that their titles to the said lands may be confirmed.

*Ordered,* That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they disapprove of and consider as unjust, the act, "incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church, so far as it grants the exclusive benefit of the churches, glebes, &c. to that Church;" and praying that the same may be sold in aid of the public debt.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of James City, whose names are thereunto subscribed; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Caroline, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that they conceive the act of Assembly "for establishing a port or ports on each river, and compelling all foreign vessels to lade and unlade at these ports;" to be repugnant to the interest and principles of commerce; establishing an invidious and unnecessary distinction between natives and foreigners; contrary to that friendly intercourse which should subsist between States; counteracting the gracious dispensation of Providence in diffusing trade and navigation through great part of the State by our several rivers; and on these, and many other accounts, contrary to our true interest; and praying that the said act may be repealed.



Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, whose names are thereunto subscribed; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Prince William, whose names are thereunto subscribed; to the same effect.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of Bryan Fairfax, attorney in fact for Robert Lord Fairfax and Denny Fairfax, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that by an act of Assembly passed in 1736, the territory of the Northern Neck, was virtually confirmed to the late Lord Fairfax, as proprietor; and by his death is descended to the said Robert and Denny, residents in Great Britain; that by the principle of antenati and the law of nations, the petitioner greatly doubts whether the subjection of the said Robert and Denny to the crown of Great Britain, creates a forfeiture; but under the terms of a law now depending, the said rights will be cancelled without retribution; and praying that this case may be considered; and in case of forfeiture compensation made.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "for deciding the payment of quit rents due from the inhabitants to the proprietors of the Northern Neck."

A petition of Charlotte Dalton, wife of Samuel Dalton, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that her said husband, having been deprived of reason, it was judged by the petitioner and her friends, necessary for the interest of his family, to sell a tract of land, the property of the said Samuel, which being done, she is advised no legal title can be made; and praying that an act may pass to confirm the said sale.

Also, a petition of Joseph Nourse, James Nourse and William Nourse; setting forth, that they are executors of James Nourse, deceased, who by his will devised to ten children all his real and personal estate, to be equally divided amongst them, his real estate consisting of one tract of land containing 1,000 acres; that the personal estate is not sufficient to pay his debts, and the division of the said land will create great distress to his family; and praying that an act may pass to vest the said land in trustees, to be sold for the payment of his debts, and any overplus arising from such sale to be equally divided among his children.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Brent be added to the committees of Propositions and Grievances and Courts of Justice.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor, with the advice of the Council, be and he is hereby authorised to direct such sums of money to be advanced to the Sieur Chevallie, jun. on account, out of the funds appropriated for the payment of debts due to foreign creditors, as shall be judged necessary to defray the expenses of the said Chevallie, jun. during his residence in this Commonwealth for the purpose of receiving payment of the debt due from this Commonwealth to his father, the Sieur Chevallie, sen.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quit rents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck, to the proprietor;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers fees, and for other purposes;" and "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, December 10, 1785.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hunter have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for dividing the county of Hampshire;" and the same being read were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, amended and agreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, "to the bill empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, to grant conditional pardons in certain cases," and the same being read;



*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their amendment to the amendment of the Senate to the said bill, and doth agree to the said amendment of the Senate.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor and Council be requested to lay before the General Assembly, the books respecting the Public Foundry at Westham.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wilkinson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be, and they are hereby directed to register all certificates granted for monies loaned this State, and reduce the same to specie value, and to issue warrants for interest which may be due thereon, which warrants shall be receivable for taxes in the same manner as those issued on certificates registered prior to the 1st day of May last.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That a committee of five members be appointed to examine the books and papers in the auditor's and solicitor's offices, and report the state and condition thereof, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

And a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Underwood, Willis, John Bowyer, Wilkinson and Stith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer pay to John Ryan, the sum of 5s. in part of his pension due the ensuing year, out of any public money in his hands.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A petition of John Irvine, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that a wagon and team belonging to the petitioner, were employed 103 days in attending the militia ordered to South Carolina, for which he has received a warrant for 10*l*. 6*d*., a sum by no means adequate to the services performed; and praying a further allowance.

Also, a petition of Andrew Leprad; setting forth, that in October 1782, he paid into the treasury a large sum of money with an intention of procuring land warrants therefor; but being entirely unacquainted with the necessary steps which should be taken, he neglected to apply to the register until a resolution of the General Assembly had passed prohibiting the issuing such warrants; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of James Crane; setting forth, that as deputy sheriff of the county of Berkeley, in the year 1783, he advanced to sundry witnesses and veniremen, a sum of money, for which he received from them the warrants granted for their attendance; and praying that he may be permitted to pay the same into the public treasury in part of his collection.

Also, a petition of Edward Valentine; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he received several dangerous wounds from the enemy, in the cure of which he expended a considerable sum of money; and praying that the same may be reimbursed by the public.

Also, a petition of sundry persons; praying that funds may be provided for the payment of the tobacco lent by them to the public, under a resolution of the General Assembly, in June 1780.

Also, a petition of Taverner Beale; setting forth, that the auditors have refused to make him any allowance for his services as quarter-master to the 8th Virginia regiment, previous to the 1st of January 1777, alleging that they are not authorised so to do, as their power commenced at that period; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of Thomas Gist; setting forth, that he was allowed by the General Assembly a pension in consideration of a wound he received with the French and Indians, in the year 1758, which has been discontinued; and praying that he may be permitted to receive the same during life, and that the arrears now due may be paid to him.

Also, a petition of Matthew Pollock; praying to be paid by the public for a horse which was taken from him by the enemy in the year 1781, whilst he was engaged in removing the records of the superior courts into a place of safety.

Also, a petition of Henry Mann; praying that the auditors may be directed to settle his accounts, and grant him certificates for the depreciation of his pay as quarter-master for the garrison at Hampton, from the 23d of December 1777, to the 20th of March 1780.

Also, a petition of Reuben Coutts; setting forth, that in the year 1781, a certain John G. Frazer was committed to the public jail, and upon application to the General Court, was admitted to bail upon giving the petitioner as security for his appearance; that the said Frazer not appearing at the time appointed, a judgment has been obtained against the petitioner for 160*l*.; and praying that he may be relieved therefrom, as the said Frazer is now returned to the State.

Also, a petition of Rowland Madison; praying that the auditors may be directed to settle his accounts as quarter-

master and commissary to a body of militia, sent in the year 1781 to the assistance of General Clarke at the falls of the Ohio.

Also, a petition of John Brown; setting forth, that in the year 1781, he was taken prisoner by the British in the engagement at the Green Springs, who took from him several valuable articles; and praying that the value thereof may be paid to him by the public.

Also, a petition of Thomas Dawson; setting forth, that he served a considerable time as a midshipman in the navy of this State, but has been prevented by the death of the captain of the ship in which he last served, from obtaining such a certificate as would entitle him to the depreciation of his pay; and praying that the auditors may be directed to receive other satisfactory proof, and settle his accounts.

Also, a petition of William Rose; setting forth, that he acted as quarter-master to the militia and volunteers, and as an assistant to the quarter-master general of the State, from the year 1777 to the year 1780; and praying that the auditors may be directed to grant him certificates for the depreciation of his pay.

Also, a petition of Thomas Mountjoy; setting forth, that he was in the year 1781, appointed a recruiting officer, and after raising a number of men, settled his accounts with the commissioners appointed for that purpose; and notwithstanding he obtained a receipt in full from them, he has since been compelled by the auditors to account for the sum of 8*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*; and praying that the same may be refunded.

Also, a petition of William Johnston; praying to be paid for a wagon and team, taken from him for the use of the army, and for which he has received no compensation.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Claims; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of the trustees and inhabitants of the town of Falmouth, was presented to the House, and read; praying that they may be permitted to lay off into lots and streets twenty acres of land adjoining the said town.

Also, a petition of William Reynolds; praying that a warrant which he received for his services as field conductor of military stores, may be paid; and that he may be allowed a bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of Edward Mitchell; setting forth, that there is in the county of Elizabeth City, a small piece of land called Point Comfort, which belongs to the Commonwealth, and upon which there was a small house, but the same was destroyed by the enemy, as it served in some measure as a light-house to vessels coming into Hampton road; and praying that he may be permitted to rebuild the same, and occupy it for a certain term of years.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Ruffin, John Simons and Arthur Foster; setting forth, that the father of the petitioner Benjamin Ruffin, and the other petitioners were, in the year 1782, appointed to value the lands in the county of Southampton, which they performed to the best of their skill and judgment, and to the satisfaction of the people; but the justices appointed to value the land of the petitioners have fixed it at three times as much as the lands of the same quality in the same neighborhood; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of John Harvie and Charles Simms; setting forth, that they did, in partnership with Colonel John Neville, in the years 1776 and 1780, locate two warrants upon an island in the Ohio river near Fort Pitt, and proceeded to survey the same, and actually settled two tenants thereon; that since the western boundary of Pennsylvania has been ascertained, it appears that the said island is within the limits thereof, and the petitioners supposed that their right to the same would have been confirmed, in consequence of the compact entered into between the two States on that occasion; but they have been informed that their tenants have been dispossessed, and the right of pre-emption given by the Legislature of Pennsylvania to General William Irvine; and praying the interposition of the General Assembly.

Also, a petition of John Campbell; setting forth, that under the laws of this State, he had acquired a right to sundry tracts of land, which are found to be within the limits of Pennsylvania, and which, he is apprehensive he shall be unable to secure without the interposition of the General Assembly; and praying relief.

Also, a petition of George Savage, naval officer of the district of Northampton; praying that he may be permitted to keep his office at the courthouse of the said county, instead of Bridgetown, which is found to be inconvenient to persons attending upon business.

Also, a petition of William Steel; praying that he may be authorised to keep a public ferry across the Kentucky river, from his land at the Stone Lick, in the county of Fayette, to the opposite shore.

Also, a petition of James Kemp; praying that the auditors may be directed to grant him certificates for the depreciation of his pay as purveyor to the continental hospital in this State, from the year 1776 to the year 1781; and that he may also be allowed a bounty in lands.

Also, a petition of John Hoomes; setting forth, that he has, in pursuance of the act of last Assembly, kept up the line of stages therein mentioned; that he finds the stage between Petersburg and Portsmouth of no advantage to the public, and is extremely burthensome to him; and praying that it may not be considered as a breach of his bond, given for keeping up the line of stages, if he should, before the expiration of three years, decline keeping one between Petersburg and Portsmouth.

Also, a petition of Benjamin Harrison; setting forth, that he accidentally lost a certificate of his right to the pre-emption of 1000 acres of land in the Kentucky district; and praying that the register may be directed to grant him a warrant for the same.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, members of the Menouist church, whose names are thereunto subscribed;



setting forth, that it is contrary to the fundamental principles of their church, that its members should, on any occasion, bear arms; and praying that they may be exempted from militia duty.

Also, a petition of the mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council of the city of Williamsburg; praying that the capitol square in the said city, with the buildings thereon, which was granted them for ten years, may be vested in the said corporation in fee simple, for the use of the grammar school.

Also, a petition of James Barnett; praying that he may be allowed a bounty in lands, in consideration of his services during the late war.

Also, a petition of John Lewis; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Daniel Leet; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of George Stubblefield; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Robert Fowke; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Edward Herndon; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of Samuel Pettus; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of John Mountjoy; to the same effect.

Also, a petition of William Wyatt and John Anderson; setting forth, that they have, by unavoidable losses at sea and otherwise, been rendered incapable of paying all their debts; that two of the creditors seized upon and sold all the personal estate of the said company; and as that was not sufficient to discharge their debts, have confined the petitioners in jail; and praying that they may be discharged, upon making a surrender and equal division of all their remaining property amongst their creditors.

Also, a petition of Matthew Anderson, Thomas Smith and John Page, on behalf of the inhabitants of the county of Gloucester; setting forth, that by the operation of the last inspection law, the inspection of tobacco at Deacon's Neck, in the county of Gloucester, will be discontinued; and praying that the same may be continued.

Also, a petition of Edward Archer and Thomas Covington, inspectors of tobacco at John Bolling's warehouse; praying that their salaries may be enlarged.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Elizabeth City; praying that commissioners may be appointed to let out to the highest bidder the public ferry from Hampton to Norfolk, and that the money arising therefrom may be applied towards the support of the poor and lessening the levy of the county.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A petition of Samuel, William and Claiborne Du-Val, was presented to the House, and read; praying that the said William and Claiborne may be authorised to sell a share of a coal mine, devised to them by the will of their father in trust for the use of the said Samuel, and apply the money arising therefrom to the purchase of other lands and negroes, to be held in trust for the same purposes.

Also, a petition of sundry persons, whose names are thereunto subscribed; setting forth, that previous to the late revolution, they were members of mercantile companies, some of the partners of which were, and still are, subjects of Great Britain; that they find by the laws now in force, that they are liable for the whole of the debts due from such companies to the citizens of this State; and that they are precluded from recovering even their own proportions of the debts due from such citizens; and praying relief.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for paying a sum of money to John Ryan. And then he withdrew.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Washington, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that they have seen, and consider as unjust, unequal, impolitic, and repugnant to the interest of religion, a bill published by order of this House, at their last session, "establishing a provision for teachers of the christian religion;" and praying that the said bill may not be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Amherst, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Frederick, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the same effect.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Halifax, whose names are thereunto subscribed, to the contrary effect; and praying that the said bill may be enacted into a law.

Also, a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Chesterfield, whose names are thereunto subscribed; in opposition to a petition presented yesterday, of sundry other inhabitants of the said county, praying a repeal of the act, "incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church," so far as respects the glebe lands and churches.

Also, a petition of Joseph Howard, administrator, &c. of Thomas Bentley, deceased; praying that adequate funds may be provided for payment of a liquidated debt due to his intestate's estate.

*Ordered*, That the said petitions be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

A petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Washington, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, that great abuses and much discontent have arisen from the execution



of an act of the last session, "to amend the militia law;" which they conceive is unjust and repugnant to the constitution and bill of rights; and praying that the said act may be repealed.

*Ordered*, That the said petition be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the militia law."

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents, due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river, to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

### MONDAY, December 12, 1785.

Mr. Simms reported, from the committee to whom the bill "directing the sale of certain lands late the property of John Mills, deceased, for payment of his debts," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Jackson reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for dividing the county of Lincoln into three distinct counties," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Bradford reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

1. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers merchants and others, inhabitants of the city of Richmond, praying that the inspection of tobacco at Byrd's warehouse may be removed to or near Rocketts' landing, be rejected.

2. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers other merchants and inhabitants of the said city in opposition thereto, is reasonable.

3. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Fayette, praying that the said county may be divided by a line beginning at the mouth of upper Howard's creek on Kentucky river; thence up the main fork thereof to its head; thence with the dividing ridge between Kentucky and Licking creek, until it comes opposite to the head of Eagle creek; thence a direct line to the nearest part of Raven creek, a branch of Licking; thence down Raven creek to the mouth thereof; thence with Licking to the Ohio; thence with the Ohio to the mouth of Sandy creek; thence up Sandy creek to the Cumberland mountain; thence with the said mountain to the line of Lincoln county; thence with that line and Kentucky river to the beginning, is reasonable.

4. *Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the western part of Augusta, and of the adjacent parts of the counties of Rockbridge and Botetourt, praying that a new county may be formed out of the said counties, by a line beginning on the top of the North mountain, on the line dividing Rockingham from Augusta; thence along the ridge which divides the waters of the south fork of the South branch from the North river to the head waters of the Cow-pasture; thence along the ridge which divides the waters of the two rivers of the Cow-pasture on the west from the waters of Middle river on the east, until where the said rivers enter or go through the North mountain; thence along the ridge which divides the waters of Gray's run from the waters of Kerr's creek to the head of Gray's run; thence to the head of Padd's creek, and down the said creek to the Cow-pasture river; thence crossing the mountains in a straight line to the lower end of the widow Mann's plantation on Jacksons river; thence a straight line to the head of Anthony's creek; thence along the ridge which divides the waters

of Doughter's creek and Nap creek, from the waters of Beaver Lick creek; thence a straight course crossing Greenbrier river to the mouth of Swago creek; thence up the said creek to the fork thereof, and up the South fork to the head thereof; thence northeastwardly along the top of the Alleghany mountain, which divides the waters of the Elk, Monongalia and Cheat rivers from the waters of Greenbrier and the North fork of the South branch to the Rockingham line; thence with the said line crossing the North fork, South branch and South fork to the beginning, is reasonable.

5. *Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the further consideration of the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Augusta, Rockingham and Hampshire, praying that a new county may be formed out of the same, be deferred until the next session of Assembly.

The 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 4th resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Smyth Tandy, in the county of Amherst;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentiss reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Robert Mackey and John Peyton, praying that two lots held by them in the common appendant to the borough of Winchester, may be annexed thereto, and that they may be permitted to lay off and build upon the same, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Simon Turner and John Turner, only surviving men of the Nansmond nation of Indians, praying that commissioners may be appointed to join them in conveying a tract of land which they have contracted to sell to William Bennett, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the recorder of the borough of Winchester, on behalf of the common council of the said borough, praying that the Court of Hustings may be authorised to receive and record all wills, deeds, and other instruments of writing executed in the said borough, and to grant letters of administration, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition as pray that the jurisdiction of the Court of Hustings, so far as it respects the sum for which suits may be brought therein, may be enlarged, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered,* That Messrs. Wilson Cary Nicholas and Meriwether Smith, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth, for the admission of emigrants and declaring their rights to citizenship, and prohibiting the migration of certain persons to this Commonwealth."

Mr. Thomson presented, according to order, a bill "for the sale of certain public lands;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Greenup presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, a resolution agreed to on Saturday the 3d instant; which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That it is expedient that the district known by the name of the Kentucky district, being part of this Commonwealth, should be separated therefrom, and formed into an independent State; that the conditions proper to be annexed to such separation are:

*First,*—That the proposed State shall take upon itself a just proportion of the public debt of this Commonwealth.

*Second,*—That all private rights and interests in lands within the said district, derived from the laws of Virginia prior to such separation, shall remain valid and secure under the laws of the proposed State, the legality of which shall be determined by the laws now existing in this State, nor shall the lands of non-resident proprietors be in any case taxed higher than those of residents within the proposed State, before the admission thereof to a vote by its delegates in Congress where such non-residents reside out of the United States, nor at any time either before or after such admission where they are citizens of the United States residing within the same; this stipulation to be reciprocal between the citizens of the proposed State and the citizens of this State.

*Third,*—That no grant of land nor land warrant to be issued by the proposed State, shall interfere with any warrant heretofore issued from the Land Office in Virginia, which shall be located on land within the said district, now liable thereto, on or before the day of



*Fourth*,—That the unlocated lands within the said district, which stand appropriated by the laws of this Commonwealth to individuals, or descriptions of individuals, for military or other services, shall be exempt from the disposition of the proposed State, and shall remain subject to be disposed of by the Commonwealth of Virginia, according to such appropriation, until the day of , and no longer; and thereafter the residue of the lands remaining within the limits of the district, shall be subject to the disposition of the proposed State.

*Fifth*,—That the use and navigation of the river Ohio, so far as the territory of the proposed State, or the territory which shall remain within the limits of this Commonwealth, lies thereon, shall be free and common to the citizens of the United States, the respective jurisdictions of this Commonwealth, and of the proposed State over the river as aforesaid; shall be concurrent only with the States which may possess the opposite shore of the said river.

*Sixth*,—That a time ought to be appointed for the free male inhabitants of the said district to elect a Convention with power to approve or disapprove of a separation on the conditions above mentioned; which Convention, in case they approve thereof, shall and may name a day on which the authority of this Commonwealth over the district aforesaid, under the exceptions aforesaid, shall cease and determine forever: *It being nevertheless, always understood and provided*, that previous thereto, the assent of the United States in Congress to such separation, their release of this Commonwealth from so much of its Federal obligations as arise from the said district being part thereof, and the fixing the terms on which the proposed State shall be admitted into the Confederacy, shall be obtained and declared.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have passed a resolution directing the treasurer to exchange a certain sum of money in his hands, for certificates for the interest due upon the liquidated debts of the United States, with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "concerning estrays," with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, respecting the funeral of the late Honorable Samuel Hardy, Esq.; which were read;

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed immediately to remit out of the contingent fund, to the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, the sum of 114*l.* 9*d.* for making good the engagements by them entered into for defraying the expenses attending the funeral of the late Honorable Samuel Hardy, Esq.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Eskridge, to them referred, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Alexander Wodrow, Charles Smith, James Craig and Robert Phillips, were tenants in common of a lot of land in the town of Winchester, which they sold for a valuable consideration to a certain William Scott; that the said Scott died before a conveyance was made to him, leaving Elizabeth Scott, an infant, his heir at law, with whom the petitioner has since intermarried; that Alexander Wodrow is since dead, and his heir at law is a subject of the King of Great Britain; so that the petitioner cannot now obtain a legal title to the said land;

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said William Eskridge, praying that the administrator of the said Alexander Wodrow, may be authorised to convey to his wife, his undivided part of the said lot of land, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That no member of the Legislature shall be eligible into any office of profit within this Commonwealth, except to the appointment of Governor or Chief Magistrate, Council, Judges of the Superior Courts, or members of Congress.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.



Mr. Johnston reported, from the committee for Religion, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration a petition to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the minister and vestry of the parish of Bristol, in the counties of Dinwiddie and Prince George, praying that the latter may be authorised to sell the glebe lands of the said parish, and apply the money arising therefrom to the purchase of other lands, to be appropriated to the use of the said parish, is reasonable.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of James Markham, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the said James Markham, as sets forth, that during the late war he was appointed to the command of the ship *Tempest*, in the navy of this State; that whilst in that service, he was taken a prisoner by the British and paroled, from which parole he was not released until the end of the war; that the auditors refuse to allow him pay to a later period than the 5th of November 1781; and praying that his accounts may be liquidated by the auditors, and his pay allowed him to the time he was discharged from his parole aforesaid, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the petitioner may be discharged from the payment of a sum of money, with which he is debited on the auditors' books, by mistake, be rejected.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments for five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government, punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes,'" and "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and for guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 13, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Lincoln into three distinct counties;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, dividing the county of Lincoln into three distinct counties."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Edwards do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "directing the sale of certain lands, late the property of John Mills, deceased, for payment of his debts;" was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the sale of certain lands, late the property of John Mills, deceased, for payment of his debts."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to establish a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to establish a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Bradford do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize,'" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause was offered to be added to the said bill by way of rider, "for discontinuing the additional sessions of the General Court, and for appropriating the money arising from the taxes upon law proceedings;" and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill by way of rider.

And then the main question being put, that the said bill, with the rider, do pass;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 49.

Noes, 53.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

On a motion made by Mr. John Mayo, jun., and seconded by Mr. Norvell;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Thomas Parramore, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Hugh Rose, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, Philip Pendleton, Thomas Edmunds of Bruns-  
wick, Archibald Stuart, Edward Carrington, Joseph Jones, Miles King, Charles Simms, David Stuart, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, Ralph Humphreys, George Jackson, William Norvell, William Walker, William Thornton, Carter Braxton, Richard Bland Lee, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Robert Sayres, Willis Riddick, William Hartwell Macon, Daniel Sandford, John Gordon, James Madison, Richard Bibb, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, Anthony Walke, Isaac Zane, John Taylor, John Francis Mercer, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Cary, William Russell, Joseph Prentis, Nathaniel Nelson, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Michael Bowyer, George Hancock, Thomas Claiborne, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clarke, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, John Daniel, Henry Southall, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Watkins, Worlich Westwood, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, George Thomson, James Garrard, Elias Wills, Thomas Underwood, George Clendennin, John Lucas, Isaac Coles, Jeremiah Pate, Isaac Vannitter, Garland Anderson, John Prunty, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun., John Rentfro, John Seabrook Wills, Robert Marshall, John Roberts, James Tapscott, Francis Peyton, William White, Christopher Robertson, Samuel Garland, John Edwards, Thomas Pettus, David Scott, William Pettijohn, Daniel Trigg, Griffin Stith, Abraham Beachum, David Bradford, William Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, Edward Bland, Williamson Ball, George Lee Turberville, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Hopkins, Gavin Hamilton, William Garrard, Wilson Cary and Andrew Kincannon.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for allowing James Berwick a bounty in lands. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "directing the sale of certain public lands;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Prentis, Zane, Thomson, King and Westwood.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters,'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Thruston, Bradford, Strother, James Garrard, Andrew Moore, Greenup, Thomson and Logan.

A bill, "for establishing a town on the lands of Smyth Tandy, in the county of Amherst;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from George Mason, Esq. enclosing the proceedings of the commissioners on the compact between the States of Virginia and Maryland, respecting the jurisdiction and navigation of the rivers Potomac and Pocomoke; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of Commerce.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice; also, on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills, "for granting to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, certificates for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government, punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" and "to repeal in part the act for amending the several laws 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, December 14, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town on the lands of Smyth Tandy, in the county of Amherst;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town on the lands of Smyth Tandy, in the county of Amherst."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the said bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter H. Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Amherst, praying that the said county may be divided by the line dividing the two parishes therein, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of divers others inhabitants of the said county of Amherst, in opposition thereto, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the executors of General Hugh Mercer, deceased, in behalf of his son William Mercer, praying that seventy-one acres of land, part of a larger tract the property of the said William Mercer, lying on Rappahannock river in the county of Stafford, may be laid off into lots and streets, and established a town, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of David Crews, praying that a ferry may be established from his lands in the county of Lincoln, across Kentucky river near the mouth of Jacks's creek to the opposite shore, in the county of Fayette, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d and 4th resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "establishing inspections of tobacco at Crow's ferry, in the county of Botetourt, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the society of free-masons' lodge in the city of Richmond, praying that they may be authorised to raise by way of lottery, a sum of money not exceeding 1500*l*. to be by them applied towards erecting a mason's hall in the said city, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Halifax, as prays that the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, to authorise the manumission of slaves;" may be repealed, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the said petition, as prays that every minister or religious teacher may be licensed by the county courts to preach at certain fixed places; and also, compelled to give assurance of fidelity and allegiance to the government, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Thomas Debnam and George Nuttall, inspectors at Deacon's Neck warehouse in the county of Gloucester, praying to be indemnified for 20,000 weight of crop inspected tobacco, taken out of the said warehouses in the year 1781, by the troops of His Most Christian Majesty, be rejected.

The 1st and 4th resolutions were severally read a second time, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d resolution was read a second time, and the amendment following being proposed to be made thereunto, to wit: strike out the words, "is reasonable," and insert "be rejected."

The House was divided,

Ayes, 50,

Noes, 50.

And so Mr. Speaker determined it in the negative.

On a motion made by Mr. Thomas Smith, seconded by Mr. John Scasbrook Wills;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Philip Pendleton, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Clarke of Campbell, John Tyler, Henry Southall, David Patterson, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Watkins, Worlich Westwood, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, David Stuart, Thomas Helm, James Garrard, George Thomson, Alexander White, Thomas Underwood, George Clenden-



min, Isaac Vanmiter, John Mayo, jun. William Norvell, William Walker, William Thornton, Francis Peyton, William White, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, Francis Corbin, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Daniel Sandford, James Madison, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Hopkins, John Taylor, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, Joseph Prentis and James Innes.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, the honorable Benjamin Harrison, Esq. Speaker, Thomas Parramore, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Sherwin, Hugh Rose, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Thomas Claiborne, William Anderson, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, John Daniel, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, Joseph Jones, Miles King, William Gatewood, Elias Wells, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Lucas, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, John Rentfro, John Seabrook Wills, Robert Marshall, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, James Tapscott, Christopher Robertson, Samuel Garland, Thomas Pettus, William Curtis, Griffin Stith, Abraham Beachum, John Gordon, Benjamin Lankford, John Clarke of Prince Edward, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, Anthony Walke, Williamson Ball, George Lee Turberville, Gawin Hamilton, Thomas Ridley, William Garrard, John Francis Mercer, Richard Cary, Wilson Cary and Nathaniel Nelson.

And then the main question being put that the House do agree to the said resolution, It was resolved in the affirmative;

Ayes, 52.

Noes, 51.

On a motion made by Mr. Simms, and seconded by Mr. Goodall,

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the said question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Sherwin, Hugh Rose, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Thomas Claiborne, William Anderson, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, John Daniel, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, Joseph Jones, Miles King, William Gatewood, Elias Wells, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Lucas, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, John Rentfro, John Seabrook Wills, Robert Marshall, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, James Tapscott, Christopher Robertson, Samuel Garland, Thomas Pettus, William Curtis, Griffin Stith, Abraham Beachum, John Gordon, William Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, John Clarke of Prince Edward, Richard Bibb, Edward Bland, Anthony Walke, Williamson Ball, George Lee Turberville, Gawin Hamilton, Thomas Ridley, William Garrard, John Francis Mercer, Richard Cary, Wilson Cary and Nathaniel Nelson.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Philip Pendleton, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, John Clarke of Campbell, John Tyler, Henry Southall, David Patterson, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Watkins, Worlich Westwood, Charles Simms, Meriwether Smith, David Stuart, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, James Garrard, George Thomson, Alexander White, Thomas Underwood, George Clendennin, Isaac Vanmiter, George Jackson, John Mayo, jun. William Norvell, William Walker, William Thornton, Francis Peyton, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, Francis Corbin, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Daniel Sandford, James Madison, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Hopkins, Isaac Zane, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, Joseph Prentis, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

The 3d resolution was read a second time, and the amendment following being proposed to be made thereunto, to wit:

Strike out the words, "is reasonable," and insert "be rejected."

It was resolved in the affirmative.

And then the resolution, as amended, being again read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 1st and 2d resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances do prepare and bring in the same.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the several bills in the Revised Code, from No. 63, to the end, except the bill No. 68, "for the employment, government, and support of malefactors condemned to labor for the Commonwealth;" the bill No. 82, "for establishing religious freedom;" the bill No. 105, "for reforming the proceedings in writs of right;" and the bill No. 123, "concerning executions;" be postponed till the next session of the General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for reforming the county courts within this Commonwealth;" and that Messrs. Prentis, Madison, Thomson, Stith, Simms, Tyler, Alexander White, Bullitt, Meriwether Smith, Bradford, Archibald Stuart, David Stuart, Andrew Moore, Matthews, Hancock, and Michael Bowyer, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

*MR. SPEAKER*,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia." And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to enable the British merchants to recover their debts due to them in this Commonwealth;" and that Messrs. Madison, Archibald Stuart, Alexander White, Thurston and Corbin, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions respecting the *Sieur Chevallie, jun.*; and for requesting the Executive to lay the books respecting the Public Foundry at Westham, before the General Assembly. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the Loan Office certificates which have been heretofore granted to the sufferers in the borough of Norfolk for the amount of their respective losses, pursuant to a resolution of the General Assembly, bearing date during the periods of paper money existence, although the original valuation of the property destroyed was made in specie, and it would be highly unjust to reduce any of the said Loan Office certificates by the legal scale of depreciation, which ought to operate only on loans of less than specie value;

*Resolved, therefore,* That the auditors of public accounts be empowered and directed to register all such loan certificates for property destroyed in the said borough of Norfolk, for the same sum in specie as is specified in such certificates respectively.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the several printed bills, No. 68, "for the employment, government, and support of malefactors condemned to labor for the Commonwealth;" No. 82, "for establishing religious freedom;" No. 105, "for reforming the proceedings in writs of right;" and No. 123, "concerning executions;" contained in the Revised Code of laws, as reported from the committee for Courts of Justice.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for granting to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, certificates for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government, punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" "to revive an act, entitled an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" and "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, December 15, 1785.

On a motion made,

*Resolved,* That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, who are directed to prepare and bring in a bill "for extending the jurisdiction of the Courts of Hustings in the town of Winchester," to receive a clause or clauses, for extending the jurisdiction of the Courts of Hustings in the towns of Alexandria and Petersburg.

A bill, "establishing inspections of tobacco at Crow's ferry in the county of Botetourt, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

A bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Saturday next.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Fayette;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for improving the navigation of the South branch of the Potomac river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a

bill "concerning refused tobacco;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "concerning election of members of General Assembly," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "for dividing the county of Lincoln into three distinct counties." And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the printed bills in the Revised Code, enumerated in the order of yesterday; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had gone through the following bill, to wit:

A bill, "for establishing religious freedom;" to which said bill they had made an amendment, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the residue of the said bills.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House, be discharged from further proceeding on the bill "for proportioning crimes and punishments in cases heretofore capital."

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Innes, Watkins, and John Scasbrook Wills, be added to the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a bill "for reforming the county courts within this Commonwealth."

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Saturday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a judge of the Court of Admiralty, in the room of Benjamin Waller, Esq., who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for granting to the officers, late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, certificates for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quirents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" and "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, December 16, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "concerning refused tobacco;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Page, Corbin, Turberville, Simms, Markham, Watkins, Wilkinson, Patteson, Bullitt, Cropper, William Mayo, and Jones.

A bill, "for dividing the county of Fayette;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Simms, Hancock, Greenup, Garrard, Logan and Roberts.

A bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for improving the navigation of the South branch of Potomac river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Alexander White, Thruston, Goodall, Zaue, Humphreys and Vanmeter.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of William Murray, with the several papers in support thereof, ought to be referred to the Executive; and that they be empowered to examine the same, and to make such allowance to the petitioner as to them shall appear to be just and right, to be paid on a warrant from the Governor, out of the funds appropriated for the payment of foreign debts.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of Robert Twiford, setting forth, that he was



possessed of warrants issued in his favor by the late commissioners Messrs. Jones and Carrington, for property impressed from him for public use, to the amount of 56*l*. which he lost out of his pocket; that in order to obtain duplicates thereof, he entered into bond with approved security, before the court of Accomack county, but the auditors, upon application to them, refused to issue the said duplicate warrants, because they were not authorised to do so by law; and praying that warrants may be issued to him by the auditors, in lieu of those lost, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “concerning seamen,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for establishing a town on the lands of Smyth Tandy, in the county of Amherst. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for unlading ballast and burial of dead bodies from on board ships,” with an amendment; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendment agreed to yesterday, to the bill “for establishing religious freedom;” which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

A motion was made, and the question being put to amend the said bill by striking out the preamble, and inserting the following words:

Whereas, it is declared by the Bill of Rights, “that religion, or the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence; and therefore, all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience, and it is the mutual duty of all to practice christian forbearance, love and charity towards each other.”

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 38.

Noes, 66.

On a motion made by Mr. Mercer, and seconded by Mr. John Bowyer:

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the foregoing question, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, the Honorable Benjamin Harrison, Esq. Speaker, John Cropper, Hugh Rose, Thomas Claiborne, John Tyler, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, William Watkins, Joseph Jones, Miles King, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, John Page, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, John Lucas, George Jackson, John Seabrook Wills, William Thoruton, Francis Peyton, Francis Corbin, Willis Riddick, William Hartwell Macon, Daniel Sandford, Griffin Stith, Edward Bland, Daniel Carroll Brent, Anthony Walke, Williamson Ball, George Lee Turberville, Thomas Ridley, William Garrard, John Francis Mercer, Carter Bassett Harrison, Richard Cary, jun. Wilson Cary and Richard Lee.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Paramore, Joshua Fry, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, George Hancock, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clarke of Campbell, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, John Daniel, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, James Garrard, Christopher Greenup, George Thompson, Charles Mynn Thruston, George Clendennin, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmitter, John Prunty, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun. John Rentfro, William Norvell, William Walker, Christopher Roberts, James Tapscott, William White, Samuel Garland, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, Thomas Pettus, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Willis Wilson, James Madison, jun. William Harrison, John Clarke of Prince Edward, Richard Bibb, Cuthbert Bullitt, Andrew Moore, John Bowyer, John Hopkins, John Taylor, John Howell Briggs, Andrew Kincannon, William Russell, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ruffin have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Thursday next.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, to whom was referred the memorial of Bryan Fairfax, be discharged from farther proceeding thereon; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill “for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck.”

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration: and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for

five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" and "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## SATURDAY, December 17, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up."

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that the third reading of the engrossed bill "for establishing religious freedom;" be postponed until the third Monday in October next;

It passed in the negative.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing religious freedom;" was read the third time, and the question being put, that the said bill do pass;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 74.

Noes, 20.

*Resolved*, That the title of the bill be, "an act, for establishing religious freedom."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Cabell, and seconded by Mr. John Scasbrook Wills;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Joshua Fry, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, Michael Bowyer, John Trigg, Robert Clark, George Hancock, Archibald Stuart, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clarke of Campbell, Samuel Hawes, Anthony New, John Daniel, Henry Southall, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, Christopher Greenup, James Garrard, George Thomson, Alexander White, Charles Thruston, Thomas Smith, George Clendennin, John Lucas, Jeremiah Pate, Ralph Humphreys, Isaac Vanmeter, George Jackson, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun. John Reutro, William Norvell, John Roberts, William Dudley, Thomas Moore, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, Francis Peyton, Christopher Robertson, Samuel Garland, Benjamin Logan, David Scott, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, William Hartwell Macon, Griffin Stith, David Bradford, James Madison, Charles Porter, William Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, John Clarke of Prince Edward, Richard Bibb, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, Williamson Ball, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Gawin Hamilton, Isaac Zane, John Tayloe, John Whitaker Willis, Andrew Kincannon and James Innes.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Thomas Claiborne, Miles King, Worlich Westwood, John Page, Garland Anderson, Elias Wills, William Thornton, Francis Corbin, Willis Riddick, Daniel Sandford, John Gordon, Edward Bland, Anthony Walke, George Lee Turberville, William Garrard, John Francis Mercer, Carter Bassett Harrison, Richard Cary, jun. Wilson Cary and Richard Lee.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate agree to proceed this day by joint ballot with this House, to the choice of a judge of the Court of Admiralty, in the room of Benjamin Waller, Esq. who hath resigned. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments to the bill "concerning the election of members of General Assembly;" and the same being read, are as followeth:

Page 1st, line 4th. Strike out from the word "directed," to the word "and," in the same line, and insert "in the month of April in every year, or the court days of each respective county or corporation."

1. Page 1st, line 10th. After the word "citizen," insert "other than free negroes or mulattoes."

2. Page 1st, line 13th. After the word "freemen," insert "except as before excepted."

3. Page 2d, line 4th. Strike out from the word "delegates," to the word "shall," in the 5th line.

4. Page 1st, line 7th. Strike out from the word "resides," to the word "any," in the 8th line.

5. Page 1st, line 11th. Strike out from the word "year," to the word "every," in the 21st line, and insert "and for discovering such defaulters, the sheriff or other officer taking the poll, shall within ten days after the said election, deliver to the clerk of the county or corporation court, as the case may be, a copy of the poll by him taken, to be kept in his office, who shall suffer any candidate or elector to take a copy thereof;" and the said clerk is hereby directed



to cause a copy of the same to be delivered to the next grand jury to be sworn for the county or corporation, who shall be charged by the presiding magistrate to make a presentment of all such persons qualified to vote residing in the said county or corporation, who shall have failed to have given their votes at the said election, agreeably to law; and for the better information of the said jury, the sheriff of the county is hereby commanded, under the penalty of 50*l*. (to be recovered and appropriated as the penalties for other neglects of his duty,) to lay before them a list of all the landholders resident therein."

6. Page 2*d*, line 36*th*. After the word "courthouse," insert "or other place of holding election."

7. Page 3*d*, line 7*th*. Strike out from the words "the seventh day," and insert "within twenty days."

8. Page 3*d*, line 8*th*. Strike out from the word "the," to the word "no," in the 9*th* line, and insert "returning officer of the first county in which such election shall be, who is hereby commanded forthwith to give notice to the returning officers."

9. Page 3*i*, line 15*th*. Strike out the words "through the week," and insert "for four days, Sunday excluded."

10. Page 3*d*, line 16*th*. After the word "courthouse," insert "or other place of holding such elections."

11. Page 3*d*, line 23*d*. Strike out from the word "trial," to the word "if," in the 29*th* line of the next page, and insert "and the committee of Privileges and Elections shall proceed on the said disputed election, and report to the House, (of which they are members) their opinion thereon, before they proceed to any other business; and the said House shall, on receipt of the said report, immediately proceed to determine thereon, and either confirm or disagree to such report as to them shall seem just."

12. Page 5*th*, line 14*th*. Strike out from the word "justified," to the end of the clause.

13. Page 6*th*, line 9*th*. Strike out the words "shall dispatch messengers to."

14. Page 6*th*, line 10*th*. After the word "election," insert "by advertisements to be affixed at four of the most convenient places in the county."

15. Page 7*th*, line 21*st*. Strike out from the word "ceaseth," to the end of the clause, and insert "he shall return himself a prisoner in execution, or be liable to an escape."

16. Page 8*th*, line 10*th*. Strike out the words "passing thereof," and insert "from and after the last day of the present session of Assembly."

17. Page 5*th*, line 11*th*. Strike out from the word "mentioned," to the word "this," in the next line.

The 1*st*, 3*d*, 4*th*, 6*th*, 7*th*, 8*th* 9*th*, 10*th* and 11*th* amendments were severally again read, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2*d* amendment was again read, amended, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 5*th* amendment was again read, and on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 12*th* amendment was again read, and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ayes, 44.

Noes, 38.

Ordered, That the other amendments do lie on the table.

On a motion made by Mr. Bibb, and seconded by Mr. Innes;

Ordered, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question to agree to the 12*th* amendment, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, George Hancock, Thomas Claiborne, John Clarke of Campbell, John Daniel, David Patteson, Worlich Westwood, William Gatewood, Christopher Greenup, James Garrard, Alexander White, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Smith, John Page, John Lucas, Isaac Vanmiter, Garland Anderson, John Prunty, John Mayo, jun. John Scasbrook Wills, John Roberts, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, Christopher Robertson, Thomas Pettus, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, Griffin Smith, David Shepherd, Charles Porter, William Harrison, Benjamin Landford, Richard Bibb, John Hopkins, Gavin Hamilton, Isaac Zane, John Francis Mercer, Thomas Edmunds of Sussex, Richard Cary, Richard Lee, William Russell and Joseph Prentiss.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, Joshua Fry, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Michael Bowyer, Archibald Stuart, Thomas Edmunds of Brunswick, Samuel Hawes, John Tyler, Henry Southall, French Strother, Henry Fry, Miles King, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Thomas Helin, George Jackson, William Norvell, William Thornton, Francis Peyton, William White, Samuel Garland, John Edwards, Francis Corbin, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Willis Wilsou, David Bradford, James Madison, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, George Lee Turberville, Carter Bassett Harrison, Nathaniel Nelson, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for apprehending and securing runaways," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to amend the act, concerning pensioners," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and to the bill "giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases." And then he withdrew.

Ordered. That leave be given to bring in a bill "to give further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon;" and that Messrs. Vanmiter and Humphreys, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the



Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for granting to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, certificates for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 11 o'clock.

#### MONDAY, December 19, 1785.

The House proceeded to the farther consideration of the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "concerning the election of members of General Assembly," which lay on the table; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "concerning seamen;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for unlading ballast, and burial of dead bodies from on board ships;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

X The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for apprehending and securing runaways;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "to amend the act, concerning pensioners;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for granting certain warrants to Robert Twiford, and allowing William White to settle his account of the expenditure of public money by his oath. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee to whom the resolution respecting Mr. Archibald Stuart, was recommitted, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their farther consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Archibald Stuart, that at the commencement of the fall session of Assembly 1784, he had determined not to return to the county of Botetourt, but to settle himself in the county of Augusta, where he had bespoke rooms for his accommodation; and had in consequence of these his intentions, given notice to his constituents that he should decline offering his services at the ensuing election; that prior to the close of the said session he had reason to change his resolution, and instead of going from the Assembly to the county of Augusta, he went directly to Botetourt, where he resided until the first Tuesday in March. (near four weeks) when he went to Rockbridge court, from which he returned to Botetourt court the week after, at which court he informed his old constituents of his change of mind, and declared his willingness to serve them in the General Assembly, should they again honor him with their confidence; but that they must dispense with his attendance on the day of the election, as his business in the General Court would at that time require his presence in the city of Richmond; that a few days after, he set out for the General Court by the way of Augusta, attended the court of that county, which commenced the third Tuesday in March, and from thence arrived in Richmond before the expiration of the same month; that during his attendance there he was elected a delegate for the present year; and that on the election day for the county of Botetourt in the year 1783, a deed was recorded to the said Archibald Stuart for an unimproved lot of land in the town of Fincastle in the said county.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. John Bowyer, that he was informed by several of the inhabitants of the county of Botetourt, that Mr. Stuart was neither a freeholder nor resident in the said county at the time of the last election; and that he had never returned his list of taxable property in the said county.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Michael Bowyer, that during the sitting of the last Assembly, Mr. Stuart informed him he had rented a room of Mrs. Burns, in the town of Staunton, where he intend-

ed to reside, and wished to be one of the delegates for the county of Augusta, if the informant resigned when he returned from the Assembly; that in the month of March last, he was informed by Mrs. Burns, that she had rented a room to Mr. Stuart.

It also further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Patrick Lockhart, who was high sheriff of the county of Botetourt at the last election, that Mr. Stuart, at the last Assembly, informed him he intended during the recess of the Assembly, to reside in the town of Fincastle in the county of Botetourt, and requested the informant to furnish him with a room, which he agreed to do, but as Mr. Stuart did not afterwards apply, he rented it to another person; that Mr. Stuart was never enrolled in the militia of the said county of Botetourt, nor did he ever return a list of his taxable property; and that he never considered him as a resident.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Archibald Stuart was incapable of being elected a delegate to serve in this present General Assembly, for the said county of Botetourt.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a report from the commissioners appointed to adjust the claim and accounts of Oliver Pollock against the State, together with a letter from the said Oliver Pollock; also, a letter from the honorable Edward Carrington, Esq. resigning the office of a commissioner, to liquidate the accounts of this State against the United States, for the acquisition and defence of the western territory, which were read.

*Ordered,* That the letters from the Governor and Oliver Pollock, together with the report of the commissioners respecting the claim of the said Oliver Pollock, be referred to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

*Ordered,* That the letter from Mr. Carrington do lie on the table.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "directing the sale of certain lands late the property of John Mills, deceased, for the payment of his debts. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to authorise the administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, to convey part of a lot of land to Elizabeth Eskridge;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for enlarging the jurisdiction of the Courts of Hustings of Winchester, Alexandria and Petersburg;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to discharge George Taylor, James Madison and Joseph Jones, from farther proceeding in a trust reposed in them by an act of Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentis presented, according to order, a bill "for reforming the county courts;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee of the whole House, to whom the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco at Crow's ferry, in the county of Botetourt, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire," was committed, be discharged from further proceeding thereon, and that the same be referred to Messrs. Hancock, Norvell, Lee, Simms, Stuart, Vanmiter, Humphreys, Alexander White, Thruston, Watkins, Jones, Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun. Thompson, Nicholas and Fry.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, in the county of Westmoreland, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses, to suspend so much of the operation of the law for the inspection of tobacco, as discontinues certain warehouses until the 1st day of October 1786.

A bill, "for re-forming the county courts;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Monday next.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the public printer be directed to strike immediately 150 copies of the bill "for re-forming the county courts;" for the use of the members of this House.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "to enable British subjects to recover their debts from citizens of this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a judge of the Court of Admiralty, in the room of Benjamin Waller, Esq. who hath resigned; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for granting to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, certificates for five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punish certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insur-

rections;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, December 20, 1785.

A bill, "to authorise the administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, to convey part of a lot of land to Elizabeth Eskridge;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to discharge George Taylor, James Madison and Joseph Jones, from farther proceeding in a trust reposed in them by an act of Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for enlarging the jurisdiction of the Courts of Hustings of Winchester, Alexandria and Petersburg;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Bibb, Bland, Richard Lee, Tyler, Watkins, Simms, Meriwether Smith, Eggleston, and Alexander White.

A bill, "to enable British subjects to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 42.

Noes, 52.

A motion was then made, and the question being put, that this House will, on the third Monday in October next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 46.

Noes, 55.

A motion was then made, and the question being put, that this House will, on Monday next, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill;

It was resolved in the affirmative.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Harrison:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendment proposed by this House to their amendments to the bill "concerning the election of members of the General Assembly," and they do recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House to the said bill; also, they do insist upon their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to amend the act concerning pensioners." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to on Tuesday the 6th instant, to the bills, "for the more general diffusion of knowledge;" "for the restraint, maintenance and cure of persons not sound in mind;" and "for registering births and deaths;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bills, with the amendments, be severally engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Stith have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday fortnight.

The House proceeded, according to the order of the day, by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a judge of the Court of Admiralty, in the room of Benjamin Waller, Esq. who hath resigned; and the members having prepared tickets, with the name of the person to be appointed, and deposited the same in the ballot boxes, Messrs. Thompson, Mercer, Braxton, and Carter Bassett Harrison, were nominated a committee to meet a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them to examine the ballot boxes and report to the House on whom the majority of votes should fall.

The committee then withdrew, and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met a committee from the Senate in the conference chamber, and jointly with them examined the ballot boxes, and found a majority of votes in favor of John Tyler, Esq.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "to amend the act, concerning pensioners;" and the same being read;

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution respecting William Murry. And then he withdrew. Mr. Prentis reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for the sale of certain public lands," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House.



*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Eggleston presented, according to order, a bill "for clearing and improving the navigation of Appomattox river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Simms reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for dividing the county of Fayette," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for clearing and improving the navigation of Appomattox river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Bibb, Sherwin, Barksdale, Markham, Nicholas, Brent and Temple.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the bills in the Revised Code No. 68, "for the employment, government and support of malefactors condemned to labor for the Commonwealth;" No. 105, "for reforming the proceedings in writs of right;" and the bill No. 123, "concerning executions;" also, on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills, "for granting to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, certificates for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life," "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes,'" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes,'" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections,'" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to amend and reduce the several laws 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 21, 1785.

Mr. Page presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to empower Robert Mackey and John Peyton to build upon and convey lots in the common annexed to the town of Winchester;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Page presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for appointing trustees to convey a tract of land belonging to the Nansemond nation of Indians;" and the same was received and read the first time, and the question being put that the bill be read a second time;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the residue of the printed bills in the Revised Code of laws enumerated in the order of the 14th instant; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bills under their consideration, and made some progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, on the last day of March next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bills.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia; and that Messrs. Clendennin, Jackson, Prentis, Scott and Pettijohn, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to suspend the operation of the acts of limitation for a certain period;" and that Messrs. Innes, Mercer and Madison, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to repeal the act, 'to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases,'" and that Messrs. Corbin, Zane and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the administrators of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, to convey part of a lot of land to Elizabeth Eskridge;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the administrators of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, to convey part of a lot of land to Elizabeth Eskridge."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for the more general diffusion of knowledge;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, directing the mode of appointing aldermen."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for registering births and deaths;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for registering births and deaths."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for the sale of certain public lands;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the sale of certain public lands."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thompson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for improving the navigation of the South branch of Potomac river;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for improving the navigation of the South branch of the Potomac river."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Michael Bowyer have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday fortnight.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several enrolled bills, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Watkins do carry the bill to the Senate for their examination.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Fayette;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dividing the county of Fayette."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay for life;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "for punishing certain offences and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, December 22, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for the restraint, maintenance and cure of persons not sound in mind;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the restraint, maintenance and cure of persons not sound in mind."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to empower Robert Mackey and John Peyton, to build upon and convey certain lots in the common annexed to the town of Winchester;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Hancock reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco at Crow's ferry in the county of Botetourt, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, "to discharge George Taylor, James Taylor and Joseph Jones, from farther proceeding in a trust reposed in them by an act of Assembly;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to discharge George Taylor, James Taylor and Joseph Jones, from farther proceeding in a trust reposed in them by an act of Assembly."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Thompson reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to amend an act, entitled an act, 'concerning entries and surveys on the western waters,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:



*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Johnston, setting forth, that under the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, for supplying the army with clothes, provisions and wagons;" he did, in the month of January 1781, furnish the county of Hampshire with a wagon and team, which was valued to 160*l.* specie; that the said specie valuation was by the court of the said county of Hampshire, levied for him in paper money; but such was the situation of the county about that time, owing to an insurrection therein, that before the said collection could be made and tendered to the petitioner, the depreciation thereof rendered it of so little value, as to induce him to refuse it as a payment for his said wagon and team, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the court of the said county of Hampshire, ought again to proceed under the said act of Assembly, and levy in favor of the petitioner, the specie value of his said wagon and team.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry persons, lenders of tobacco to the public under a resolution of Assembly passed in June 1780, praying that funds may be provided for the payment thereof, together with the interest due thereon, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of Thomas Gist, setting forth, that in consequence of his being wounded and taken prisoner by the Indians at the defeat of Major Grant in the year 1758, he was allowed an annuity of 40*l.* per annum during life: which annuity has been discontinued, and warrants refused to be granted him for some arrears of provision which he has not yet received, and praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner's said annuity, together with any arrearages which shall appear to be due, ought to be continued and allowed to him.

The 1st and 3d resolutions being read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

The 2d resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That the 2d resolution be referred to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Joseph Nourse, James Nourse and William Nourse, executors of James Nourse, deceased, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said James Nourse, died seized of a tract of land in the county of Berkeley, containing near 1,000 acres, and possessed of sundry negroes, and some personal estate: That by his will, he devised several money legacies to his younger children, and directed that the residue of his estate should be equally divided amongst all his children, ten in number, five of whom are still under age; that the executors have sold the negroes and personal estate, but the money arising therefrom will not be sufficient to pay the debts or legacies.

It further appears to your committee, that such is the situation of the said land, that it will be impossible to divide the land into ten parts, without doing injustice to some of the devisees, as by any division that can possibly be made, some of the parts will contain only cleared land, and others must consist entirely of wood land, and that the buildings alone will be of greater value than any one share: That the situation of the family will not admit of working the whole tract for the benefit of those interested until the younger children are of age.

It further appears to your committee, that all the parties interested who are of full age, have consented that the said land should be sold, and the money, after the payment of the debts and legacies, divided agreeably to the will, except Mr. John Cook, who intermarried with one of the daughters of the testator, and who is guardian to the children who are under age.

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That it would be for the benefit of all the parties interested, if trustees were appointed to allot to the wife of the said John Cook, one-tenth part of the said tract of land, having regard to quantity and quality, and to sell the other nine-tenths, and after paying the debts and legacies, to divide the purchase money among the rest of the children of the said James Nourse, deceased.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

Mr. Alexander White reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Samuel, William and Claiborne Du-Val, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Samuel Du-Val, late of the county of Henrico, deceased, by his will devised to his sons William and Claiborne Du-Val, in trust for the use of his son Samuel, during life, and after his death to the children of the said Samuel, one-fifth part of his lands in the said county, containing the Deep Run coal-pits; that the profits arising from the said pits, are not sufficient to support the family of the said Samuel Du-Val; and that if the same were sold and the purchase money vested in other lands, with a proportionate number of slaves, it is probable the profits arising therefrom would be sufficient for that purpose.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Samuel, William and Claiborne Du-Val, praying that the share of the said coal-pits devised to the said William and Claiborne, in trust for the use of the said Samuel during his life, and after his death to his children, may be sold and the purchase money vested in other lands, and a proportionate number of slaves, to be held agreeably to the limitations in the said will, be rejected.



And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the petition of Catlett James, was committed, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said petition under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the petitioner's discharge, signed by General Mughlenburg, that he faithfully served three years as a soldier in the 1st Virginia regiment, being the term of his enlistment, which commenced the first day of August 1776, and ended the first day of August 1779.

It further appears to your committee, from the deposition of the petitioner's mother, Mildred James, that at the time of his enlistment he was in full health, and when he returned home, which was in December 1779, he was afflicted with pains in his back and hips, which have since terminated in a violent rheumatic complaint, and renders the petitioner unable to procure a livelihood by labor.

It further appears to your committee, from a certificate under the hand of the petitioner's doctor, that his present disorder proceeds from the hardships which he suffered whilst in service;

*Whereupon n, resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Catlett James, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the petitioner ought to be put on the list of pensioners, and allowed for his present relief one year's pension.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Reuben Coutts, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from an attested record from the clerk of the General Court, that in the month of October in the year 1781, a certain John Gizzard Frazer was apprehended upon a charge of arson, and was bailed by the honorable Paul Carrington, Esq. Chief Justice of the said court, in which recognizance the petitioner and a certain Richard Johnson, became bound as securities to the said Frazer, for his appearance before the then next General Court, to be held in the month of December following:

That in consequence of the failure of the said Frazer to appear at the said General Court holden in December 1781, his default was recorded, and a scire facias was issued against him and his said securities, judgment obtained thereon, and execution sued out against the petitioner's property to the amount of 150*l.*, which he has satisfied and discharged.

It further appears to your committee, that after the said John Gizzard Frazer was bailed as aforesaid, he left the State, which prevented the petitioner from surrendering him for trial, in discharge of the said recognizance.

*Whereupon, resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said Reuben Coutts, praying to be reimbursed by the public the said sum of 150*l.*, is reasonable.*

*Ordered, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.*

Mr. Page presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Thomas Smith reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.*

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.*

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for granting certificates to the officers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.*

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from the Governor, enclosing a supplementary act of the Legisla-

ture of Maryland, respecting the navigation of the river Potomac; also, a statement of sundry accounts between the United States and individual States; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the memorials of the President and Directors of the James River Company, of John Campbell, John Harvie and John Simms, were referred, be discharged from farther proceeding thereon; and that the same be referred to the committee for Courts of Justice, that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Michael Bowyer have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Monday se'nnight.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### FRIDAY, December 23, 1785.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Barksdale have leave to be absent from the service of this House until Monday se'nnight; Mr. Macon, until Thursday next; and Mr. John Clarke of Prince Edward, until Friday se'nnight.

An engrossed bill, "to empower Robert Mackey and John Peyton, to build upon and convey certain lots in the common annexed to the town of Winchester;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to empower Robert Mackey and John Peyton, to build upon and convey certain lots in the common annexed to the town of Winchester."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing inspections of tobacco at Crow's ferry, in the county of Botetourt, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, establishing inspections of tobacco at Thomas Paxton's, in the county of Rockbridge, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hancock do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to provide for the poor in the several counties within this Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for safe keeping the records of the proprietary office, in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for keeping the land papers of the Northern Neck in the register's office, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for granting certificates to the officers and soldiers late of the 1st and 2d State regiments, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, granting certificates to certain persons of the Virginia line and navy, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have examined several enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled; and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Watkins reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Watkins do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

A bill "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Tuesday next.

Mr. Norvell reported, from the committee appointed to examine the treasurer's accounts, that the committee had, according to order, examined the same, and agreed to a report thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again read, and is as followeth:

Your committee find, that at the last settlement made by Jaquelin Ambler, treasurer, from the 11th day of Dec. 1784 to the 11th day of Dec. 1785, inclusive, there remained a balance in the treasury, amounting to 22,542l. 9s. 1 3-4d.; and that there hath been received by the said treasurer, from the 12th day of Dec. 1784, to the 11th day of Dec. 1785, inclusive, the following sums, to wit: From escheators, the sum of 132l. 14s. 6d.; also, from the late agent for the sale of commutables, the sum of 711l. 16s. 8d.; also, by virtue of the last recruiting law, the sum of 1,122l. 5s. 7 1-2d.; also, of sundry persons, on divers accounts, the sum of 878l. 4s. 8 1-2d.; also, for the arrears of the revenue taxes for the year 1782, the sum of 2,432l. 6s. 9 3-4d.; also, for the arrears of the revenue taxes due for the year 1783, the sum of 30,011l. 7s. 9 1-2d.; also, from officers of the customs, viz. by virtue of the first revenue law, the sum of 4,725l. 12s. 9d.; for the duties of 2 1-2 per cent., the sum of 14,216l. 16s. 2 3-4d.; for the impost on mariners, the sum of 332l. 12s. 7 1-4d.; and for duties appropriated to the redemption of the army debt, the sum of 10,184l. 5s.; also, on account of the Land Office, for right money, the sum of 1,563l. 6s. 8d.; also, of the register of the Land Office, the sum of 2,200l. 18s. 11d.; also, from the clerks of courts for the taxes on deeds, wills and law process, the sum of 3,071l. 6s. 10 3-4d.; also, for the revenue taxes of 1784, the sum of 158,466l. 12s. 2 3-4d.; also, from inspectors of tobacco, viz. for tax appropriated for payment of tobacco burnt at Rocky Ridge warehouse, the sum of 8,536l. 16s. 2d.; for tax by virtue of first recruiting law, the sum of 215l. 2s. 8d., for surplus of tax on rents, the sum of 5,586l. 11s. 1 1-2d.; and for the tax appropriated to the redemption of the army debt, the sum of 11,409l. 10s. 10d.; also, from notaries public, the sum of 9l. 2s. 10 1-2d.; also, for the revenue taxes for the year 1785, the sum of 255l. 13s.; also, on account of the arrears of the certificate tax for the year 1783, the sum of 11,243l. 8s. 8 3-4d.; and on account of the certificate tax due for the year 1784, the sum of 136,695l. 17s. 9d.; amounting in the whole, received by the said treasurer, within the periods aforesaid, to 426,574l. 19s. 8 1-4d.

Your committee likewise find, that the said treasurer, within the periods aforesaid, hath disbursed and admitted in discount of the revenue taxes, to the amount of 238,506l. 9s. 5d., as appears by the receipts and corresponding vouchers, produced to and examined by us. It further appears that the said treasurer hath admitted for one-tenth of the land tax by virtue of the revenue laws, the sum of 6,429l. 18s. in bills of credit of the 15th of March 1780, which bills were produced to your committee, examined and destroyed. It further appears that the said treasurer hath paid to the claimants for tobacco burnt at Rocky Ridge warehouse, to the amount of 7,217l. 12s. 2 1-2d. It also appears that he hath admitted in part of the revenue taxes of 1783, agreeably to law, notes to the amount of 11,039 lbs. of tobacco, which was burnt at the aforesaid warehouse, and which at the rate of 30s. per hundred, amounts to 165l. 11s. 9d. It appears further, that a loss has been sustained in the sale of sundry commutable articles since the said treasurer's last settlement (including notes for 15 barrels of old flour which cannot be disposed of) to the amount of 410l. 8s. 6 1-4d. And it appears also, that the said treasurer hath admitted in discount of the certificate tax, as the law directs, militia certificates, warrants for supplies furnished the army, &c. and soldiers' tobacco notes for the year 1783, to the amount of 11,243l. 8s. 8 3-4d.; and for the year 1784, to the amount 136,695l. 17s. 9d.; which several credits being duly entered, there remained a balance in the treasury on the 12th instant of 25,905l. 13s. 3 3-4d., as will appear by the statement annexed.

DR.

## THE PUBLIC TREASURY,

*From the 12th day of December 1784, to the 11th day of December 1785, inclusive.*

To balance of account settled to the 12th December 1784,	-	-	-	£ 22,542	9	1 3-4
Escheators received per account,	-	-	-	132	14	6
Late agent, for sale of commutables, per account,	-	-	-	711	16	8
County lieutenants by virtue of last recruiting law, per account,	-	-	-	1,122	5	7 1-2
Sundry persons as per account,	-	-	-	878	4	8 1-2
Sheriffs, for arrears of revenue taxes of 1782,	-	-	-	2,432	6	9 3-4
Ditto for ditto of ditto of 1783,	-	-	-	30,011	7	9 1-2
OFFICERS OF CUSTOMS,—viz:						
By virtue of first revenue law,	-	-	£ 4,725	12	9	
For the duties of 2 1-2 per cent.	-	-	14,216	16	2 3-4	
For the impost on mariners,	-	-	332	12	7 1-4	
For duties appropriated to the redemption of the army debt,	-	-	10,184	5	0	
				29,459	6	7
To Land Office for right money,	-	-	-	1,563	6	8
Register of Land Office,	-	-	-	2,200	18	11
Clerks of counties for tax on wills, deeds and law process,	-	-	-	3,071	6	10 3-4
Sheriffs for the revenue taxes of 1784,	-	-	-	158,466	12	2 3-4

*Amount carried over,*

£ 252,592 16 6 1-2



*Amount brought forward,*

£ 252,592 16 6 1-2

## INSPECTORS OF TOBACCO,—viz:

For tax appropriated for tobacco burnt at Rocky Ridge, as

per account,	-	-	£ 8,536 16 2	
Tax by virtue of first revenue law,	-	-	215 2 8	
Surplus of tax on rents,	-	-	5,586 11 1 1-2	
Tax for redemption of army debt,	-	-	11,409 10 10	
				25,748 0 9 1-2
To notaries public, for tax on seal,	-	-	-	9 2 10 1-2
Sheriffs, for revenue taxes of 1785,	-	-	-	285 13 0
Ditto, for arrears of certificate tax, of 1783,	-	-	-	11,243 8 8 3-4
Ditto, for certificate tax of 1784,	-	-	-	136,695 17 9
				£ 426,574 19 8 1-4

## THE PUBLIC TREASURY,

CR.

*From the 12th day of December 1784, to the 11th day of December 1785, inclusive.*

By amount of disbursements and discounts from the 12th day of December 1784, to the 11th day of December 1785, inclusive, as appears by the receipts and corresponding vouchers produced and examined,	-	-	-	£ 238,506 9 5
Bills of credit of the 18th of March 1780, received in payment of one-tenth of the land tax, produced to the committee, examined and destroyed,	-	-	-	6,429 18 0
Amount of payments made to claimants for tobacco burnt at Rocky Ridge, per account,	-	-	-	7,217 12 2 1-2
By 10 hogsheads, quantity 10,949 lbs. of tobacco burnt at Rocky Ridge, received agreeably to the orders of the General Assembly in part of the revenue tax of 1783, at the rate of 30s. per cwt.	-	-	-	164 4 9
Also, on a transfer note 90 lbs. nett of like tobacco, received on same account,	-	-	-	1 7 0
By loss sustained in sales of commutables since last settlement, including 15 barrels of old flour, the receipts of which were paid into the treasury, in part of the revenue taxes, and cannot be disposed of	-	-	-	410 8 6 1-4
Amount of militia certificates, warrants for supplies furnished the army, &c., and soldiers tobacco notes admitted in discount of the arrears of the certificate tax for 1784, as appears by the receipts and corresponding vouchers produced and examined by the committee,	-	-	-	11,243 8 8 3-4
By amount received for certificate tax of 1784, as appears by the receipts and corresponding vouchers,	-	-	-	136,695 17 9
Balance carried to new account,	-	-	-	25,905 15 3 3-4
				£ 426,574 19 8 1-4

*Errors Excepted,*J. AMBLER, *Treasurer.*

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, December 24, 1785.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the several acts of Assembly, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Underwood reported, from the committee appointed to examine into the situation of the books and papers in the treasurer's, solicitors and auditor's offices, that the committee had, according to order, examined the same, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, as followeth:

Your committee, in looking over the books of the treasury, find many accounts therein stated for the years 1776 and 1777. by which it appears that large balances are due to the public: Your committee think proper to inform the House, that the mode at present adopted of keeping the books in the auditor's office, is not a sufficient check on the books kept by the treasurer; and that although the late treasurer, George Webb, Esqr's. accounts have, as your committee are informed, been settled several years, by a committee from the Assembly, yet there appears to be due him a balance of 1,011,621*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* paper currency: Your committee also discovered that there are many large accounts standing open on the books in the auditors office, for sums of money advanced to directors of public buildings, recruiting officers, county lieutenants, commissaries, and others; and are of opinion that those accounts ought to be closed: Your committee find by the law, the solicitor entered on the duties of his office in the year 1780, in which law a power is given him to call upon all delinquent debtors for final settlement of their accounts; that about five years have elapsed away, and a great number of those accounts are still unsettled: Your committee therefore think it necessary to continue that office longer, as it is attended with no great advantage to the State, and costs 750*l.* per annum: Your committee are of opinion, that as several sums of money are paid into the treasury which are not particularly appropriated by law, some measure should be taken hereafter directing how all such money shall be appropriated; and it is necessary that, at the end of every year the treasurer should make a fair settlement for all monies in his hands, that it may be the more certainly effected;

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor and Council ought to be empowered, from and after the 1st day of January next, to cause to be kept in the treasurer's office, a book, in which the treasurer shall enter all and every sum or sums of specie by him received in a cash account, which account the said treasurer ought to settle with the Executive at the end of three months, striking the balance on the book, by which it will appear what sum of money is in his hands when such settlement is made; which several settlements may be revised by the General Assembly at their next meeting.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Executive ought to be empowered, to cause to be kept in the auditor's office, from and after the 1st day of January next, a set of new books, in which all the public accounts in future ought to be kept, and therein to be stated against the treasurer a particular account of the specie by him received, also a particular account of all warrants drawn on him for payment, which account ought to be settled in manner aforesaid at the end of every three months, subject also to the revision of the succeeding session of the General Assembly.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Governor and Council ought to be empowered, to employ a proper person to state in a clear and correct manner, this States' account against the continent, to settle up all the books to the end of the year 1785, and to collect the several balances thereon; who ought to have so many clerks, to be appointed by the Executive, as may be necessary for the above purposes.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Executive ought to be empowered, from time to time, to call upon such person so to be employed in public service, to settle up his or their collections, and order payment to be made to the treasurer, and that the Executive ought to forward the settlement of this State's account against the continent as expeditiously as possible; and that the person thus employed to state and settle the continental account, and bring forward and have collected the several balances due on the public books, ought to receive for his trouble from the public treasury, the same salary as is allowed by law to an auditor of public accounts, for the year 1786.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee of Commerce do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Leonard Cowper, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of General Wood and Colonel William Russell, that the petitioner being a captain in the 4th Virginia regiment, was in the year 1779, stationed with his said regiment in the State of New York. That the petitioner being thus in service, was by an officer of the Virginia line treated in the most ignominious manner, which exposed him to the contempt of the officers of the army, to avoid which, he was constrained to challenge the offender, in the issue of which, he received a wound, which soon after occasioned the loss of his leg.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner was considered in the army as an officer of great merit, and upon a representation of his case to the continental board of war, he was admitted into the invalid corps in Philadelphia, and continued therein as a captain during its existence.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioner is in very needy circumstances, and is rendered unable from the aforesaid wound to support himself by labor.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Leonard Cowper, praying to be put on the list of pensioners, is reasonable.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Richard Bray and John Kidd, late inspectors of tobacco at Shephard's warehouse, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the deposition of Gregory Smith, Esq. that on the morning of the 7th of May last, he was informed that Shephard's warehouse was broken open: on which information he went, in company with a Mr. Thomas Brown down to the said warehouse, and upon examining found that some person had slipped back the bolt of one of the doors with some sharp instrument, and had taken tobacco thereout. That from a violent rain which fell the preceding evening the deponent plainly discovered that tobacco had been rolled from the said warehouse to the water's edge, where it was broken up, and, as the deponent believes, put on board of a boat, he having also discovered the print of a keel of a boat in the sand, together with the print of many feet.

It further appears to your committee, from the affidavit of the said inspectors, that upon their being informed of the breaking open of the said warehouse, (which was done on the night of the 6th of May last,) they immediately obtained a warrant from a magistrate, and made diligent search after the tobacco stolen, without being able to make any discovery of the robbery; that upon examining the warehouse they missed two hogsheads of tobacco, weighing 2,111 pounds nett; which they have been obliged to make good to the owner thereof; and which appears to your committee to have been actually done by the petitioners.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Richard Bray and John Kidd, late inspectors of tobacco at Shephard's warehouse; praying to be reimbursed by the public the said 2,111 lbs. nett tobacco, which was stolen thereout, is reasonable; to be paid to the petitioners in money, at the rate of thirty shillings per hundred weight.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions of Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Samuel Overton Pettus, to them referred, and had agreed to a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner enlisted in the ninth Virginia regiment, on the 2d day of March 1776, and continued therein until the 4th day of October 1777, when he was made a prisoner at the battle of Germantown; that as he was exchanged, which did not happen until the month of June 1778, he returned to Virginia, and in January 1779 was appointed an ensign in the regiment of guards, in which he served until the month of June 1781, when it was disbanded in consequence of the removal of the Convention troops.

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Samuel Overton Pettus; praying that the register may be directed to grant him a warrant for an ensign's portion of land, to be located in the district set apart for the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Corbin do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Greenbrier, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Greenbrier; praying that so much of the taxes as are due from them to the public, may be applied towards opening a road from the highest navigation on James river, to the falls of the Great Kanawha, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the resolution respecting the loan certificates, issued for property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Thomas Matthews, that the valuation of the property destroyed in the said borough of Norfolk, did not exceed the real specie value thereof at the time the same was made.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said loan certificates, issued for property destroyed in the said borough of Norfolk, ought to be registered by the auditors of public accounts for the same sum in specie as is specified in such certificates.



And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of Culpeper, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Culpeper; praying that the same may be divided into two distinct counties by a line to begin at the mouth of the Robison river; thence up the same to Crooked run; thence with the principal branch thereof to Tenant's old church, or the place where the said church stood; thence a direct line to the mouth of Popham's run; thence up the said run to the head of the main branch thereof, in the Blue Ridge; thence with the said Blue Ridge to the head of the line of Orange county, thence down the same to the beginning, be rejected.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of James Hendricks, to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and is as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said James Hendricks; praying that he may be protected from suits brought, and which may be brought against him, on account of the purchase of sixteen horses, made on behalf of the United States, for the use of the French army in the year 1781, is reasonable.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, entitled 'an act, to authorise the manumission of slaves;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 35.

Noes, 52.

*Resolved,* That the bill be rejected.

On a motion made by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Page;

*Ordered,* That the names of the ayes and noes, on the question for the second reading of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, Thomas Parramore, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Sherwin, Hugh Rose, Samuel Hawes, John Daniel, Edmund Read, Carter Henry Harrison, Miles King, William Gatewood, Elias Wills, Thomas Smith, Andrew Donnelly, Jeremiah Pate, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, John Dillard, John Rentfro, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, Thomas Pettus, William Curtis, Abraham Beacham, William Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, Richard Bibb, Williamson Ball, George Lee Tarberville, Thomas Ridley, George Stubblefield, William Garrard, Richard Cary and Wilson Cary.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, John Cropper, Joshua Fry, John Trigg, George Hancock, John Clarke of Campbell, John Tyler, Henry Southall, David Patteson, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Watkins, Worlich Westwood, Charles Simms, David Stuart, Christopher Greenum, James Garrard, George Thompson, Alexander White, John Page, Thomas Underwood, George Clendennin, Isaac Vanmiter, John Prunty, John Mayo jun. John Roberts, William Thornton, James Ball, Richard Bland Lee, William White, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, Francis Corbin, David Scott, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Daniel Sanford, David Bradford, David Shepherd, James Madison, Charles Porter, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Zane, John Whitaker Willis, Carter Bassett Harrison, John Howell Briggs, Andrew Kincannon, William Russell and Thomas Matthews.

*Ordered,* That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to authorise the manumission of slaves;'" and that Messrs. Braxton, Richard Bland Lee, Thompson Tyler, David Stuart, Zane, Simms and Nicholas, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to authorise the Society of Free Masons in the city of Richmond, to raise a sum of money by way of lottery;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison presented from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, 'for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;'" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with

certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections, and for re-forming the county courts;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

## MONDAY, December 26, 1785.

A bill, "to amend the several acts of Assembly, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Wednesday next.

A bill, "for establishing an inspection of tobacco on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Nicholas, Thompson, Carter Henry Harrison, William Anderson, Cabell and Rose.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco on the land of John Lynch in the county of Campbell," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses, for establishing an inspection of tobacco at the Point of Fork, on James river.

A bill, "to authorise the Society of Free Masons in the city of Richmond, to raise a sum of money by way of lottery;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing a town on the land of William Mercer, in the county of Stafford;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the act, for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the resolution upon the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of Augusta, Botetourt and Rockbridge, was recommended, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their further consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of divers inhabitants of the said counties of Augusta, Botetourt and Rockbridge, as prays that a new county may be formed, to be bounded as followeth:—beginning at the top of the North mountain on the line which divides Rockingham from Augusta; thence along the ridge which divides the waters of the South Fork of the South Branch, from the North river, to the head waters of the Cow Pasture; thence along the ridge which divides the waters of the two rivers of the Calf Pasture on the west from the waters of the middle river on the east, until where the said rivers intersect the line of Rockbridge county; thence with that line, until it strikes the line of Botetourt county; thence to the mouth of Cow Pasture river; thence crossing the mountains in a straight line to the lower end of the widow Mann's plantation, on Jackson's river; thence a straight line to the head of Anthony's creek; thence along the ridge which divides the waters of Dougher's creek and Nap creek, from the waters of Beaver Lick creek; thence a straight line crossing Greenbrier river, to the mouth of Sweago creek; thence up the said creek, and the South Fork thereof to its head; thence northeastward, along the top of the Alleghany mountain, which divides the waters of the Elk, Monongalia, and Cheat rivers, from the waters of the Greenbrier, and the North Fork of the South Branch, until it strikes the Rockingham line; thence with the said line, crossing the North Fork, South Branch, and South Fork to the beginning, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other part of the petition of divers inhabitants of the said counties as prays, that part of the said county of Rockbridge may be included in the said new county, be rejected.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the first resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of sundry officers of the State line and State navy, praying that warrants may issue to such of them as are entitled thereto, for a commutation of five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life, is reasonable.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive ought to be directed to complete the discrimination of all the State officers required by the act of Assembly, entitled "an act, to adjust and regulate the pay and accounts of the officers and soldiers of the Virginia line, on continental establishment; and also, of the officers, soldiers, sailors, and mariners, in the service of this State, and for other purposes;" and that upon the completion of



such discrimination, the Executive shall direct the auditors to issue certificates for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life, to such of the said officers as may by law, be entitled to the said rewards.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Steele, praying that a ferry may be established from his land in the county of Fayette across Kentucky river, to the opposite shore, in the county of Lincoln, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Anderson, praying that a ferry may be established from his lands in the county of Botetourt across James river, to the land of William Crow, on the opposite shore, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of William Crow, praying that a ferry may not be established from the lands of William Anderson across James river, be rejected.

The 1st and 2d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

The 3d resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 4th and 5th resolutions being severally read a second time were, on a motion made, ordered to be recommitted to the same committee.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 3d resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the President and Directors of the Potomac Company, praying that an act may pass, directing that the cut or canal at the great and little falls of the river Potomac, if carried on one level and supplied by the current of the river, shall contain only two feet water, instead of four feet, as directed by the act "for opening and extending the navigation of the said river," is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of John Campbell, as prays that one hundred and fifty lots of land, which he has laid off with convenient streets opposite the lower falls of the river Ohio, may be established a town, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition as prays that a ferry may be established from the land of the said John Campbell across the river Ohio below the falls, to the mouth of Silver creek and Mill run on the opposite shore, is reasonable.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The 2d and 3d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d and 3d resolutions; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Carter Henry Harrison reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration two petitions to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the inspectors of tobacco at John Bolling's warehouse, praying that their salaries may be increased, is reasonable; and that they be allowed in future the sum of 70l. each annually, in lieu of their former salaries.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of John Simmons, Arthur Foster, and Benjamin Ruffin, late commissioners of the land tax in the county of Southampton, praying to be relieved from the unequal assessment of their lands, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the assessments of the lands of the said petitioners ought to be referred to the court of the said county of Southampton, for their reconsideration.

The 1st resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 2d and 3d resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered,* That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," was committed, to receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the 1st resolution.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration several petitions, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Rockbridge, praying that all that part of the county, lying between the Camp mountain, and the dividing line between Rockbridge and Botetourt, as lately extended, may be annexed to and made part of the county of Botetourt, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Wash-



ington, praying that the said county may be divided, by a line to be run along the Clinch mountain to the Carolina line; thence with the said line to the Cumberland mountain, and that all the extent of country between the Cumberland mountain, Clinch mountain, and the Montgomery line, may be formed into a distinct county, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the consideration of the petition of the merchants, traders and other inhabitants of the town of Petersburg, praying that the several laws relating to the inspection of tobacco may be amended, and that the act of limitations, called the six months act, may be repealed, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in-pursuant to the 1st resolution; and that the committee of Propositions and Grievances, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Braxton reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Lancaster and Northumberland, and other adjacent counties, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of sundry inhabitants of the counties of Lancaster and Northumberland, and other adjacent counties, whose names are thereunto subscribed, as prays that a town may be established in the fork of the Eastern and Western branch of Corotoman river, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other part of the said petition, as prays that the act of Assembly, entitled "an act to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth," may be amended, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That it be an instruction to the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom it was referred to prepare sundry bills "for establishing towns;" to receive a clause or clauses, pursuant to the 1st resolution.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the 2d resolution; and that the committee for Commerce do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Braxton presented, from the committee of Commerce, according to order, a bill "to approve, confirm and ratify the compact made by the commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, and the commissioners appointed by this State, to regulate and settle the jurisdiction and navigation of Potomac and Pocomoke rivers and that part of Chesapeake Bay, which lieth within the territory of this State;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for re-forming the county courts;" and after some time spent therein Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered,* That the said report be received to-morrow.

The order of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable British subjects to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till Monday next.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents, due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers," being read;

*Ordered,* That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## TUESDAY, December 27, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, 'for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river;" was read the third time.

*Resolved,* That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, 'for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river."

*Ordered,* That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing a town on the land of William Mercer, in the county of Stafford;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing a town on the land of William Mercer, in the county of Stafford."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the society of free masons in the city of Richmond, to raise a sum of money by way of lottery;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the society of free masons in the city of Richmond, to raise a sum of money by way of lottery."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to approve, ratify and confirm the compact entered into between the commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of Maryland, and the commissioners appointed by this State, respecting the jurisdiction and navigation of the rivers Potomac and Pocomoke, and that part of Chesapeake Bay which lieth within this State;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Madison, Tyler, Zane, Corbin, Braxton and Simms.

Mr. Braxton presented, from the committee of Commerce, according to order, a bill "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

Mr. Braxton presented, from the committee of Commerce, according to order, a bill "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Braxton presented, from the committee of Commerce, according to order, a bill "for the encouraging and increasing shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to yesterday, to the bill "for re-forming the county courts;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth;" also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend and reduce into one act, the several acts of Assembly 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, December 28, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for re-forming the county courts;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for re-forming the county courts."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for the encouraging and increasing of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill, "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A motion was made, and the question being put, that leave be given to bring in a bill "to exempt the counties of Ohio, Harrison and Monongalia, from the payment of public taxes, for a limited time;"

It passed in the negative.



The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to enable British subjects to recover their debts from the citizens of this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" and to the bill "to amend the several acts declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY, December 29, 1785.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution for paying a sum of money to Reuben Coutts; also to the bills "for improving the navigation of the South branch of Potomac river;" "to authorise the administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, to convey part of a lot of land to Elizabeth Eskridge;" "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; "for dividing the county of Fayette," with an amendment, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House; "for establishing religious freedom," with an amendment, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House; and "for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes," with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Simms presented, according to order, a bill "for keeping certain roads in repair;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorials of John Campbell, John Harvie and Charles Simms, to them referred, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that several titles derived under the laws of this Commonwealth to lands formerly supposed to be within the same, but since found to fall within the cession made by this State to the State of Pennsylvania, have been questioned in the courts of the said State, merely from having originated under the laws of this Commonwealth;

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive be requested to inform the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, that the General Assembly are desirous to appoint three commissioners, to meet three others to be appointed on the part of the said State, any two of whom from each side to confer together, and devise and report a plan for the settlement of all disputes arising on the titles aforesaid.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That as soon as the Executive shall be informed that the State of Pennsylvania have acceded to the proposal aforesaid, they appoint three commissioners for the purpose aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Charlotte Dalton, wife of Samuel Dalton, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioner, before her marriage, was entitled to the moiety of a tract of land in the county of Caroline, of which her husband recovered the possession by a suit at law; that the petitioner, with her husband, being inhabitants of the State of North Carolina, derive little advantage from the said land; but as the same adjoins to a tract belonging to a certain David Chevis, he is willing to purchase the same and give the full value therefor, provided he can obtain a legal title thereto.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of sundry persons, that the petitioner's husband has for



several years been in a state of insanity, and totally incapable of attending to the situation of his affairs, or making any provision for the support of his family;

*Resolved, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Charlotte Dalton, praying that her moiety of the said land may be vested in trustees, who may be authorised to convey the same to the said David Chevis in fee simple, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of the President and Directors of the James River Company, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That so much of the petition of the President and Directors of the James River Company, setting forth, that the words of the act for opening the navigation of the said river, so far as they respect the distance to which the same is to be extended, are vague and indefinite; and praying that the same may be explained, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that they may be authorised to grant an interest of six per centum upon money borrowed by them for the said undertaking; and that they may also be permitted to limit the depth of the canals, and to increase the number of shares, is reasonable.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Page reported, from the committee for Courts of Justice, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Samuel, William and Claiborne Du-Val, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that Samuel Du-Val, deceased, late of the county of Henrico, devised to the petitioners, William and Claiborne Du-Val, one-fifth part of a tract of land in the said county, containing the Deep Run coal-pits, to be held by them in trust for the petitioner Samuel, during his life, and after his death, for the benefit of his children.

It further appears to your committee, from the testimony of Philip Du-Val, that the whole of the said pits rented only for the sum of 160*l.* per annum, one-fifth part of which would not be sufficient to support the family of the said Samuel; that the said pits being about eight miles from James river, and about thirteen from the city of Richmond, it will be impossible to work them for the benefit of the said Samuel, without a large sum of money; that the other devisees have sold their shares of the said pits for the sum of 2000*l.* each, which they are of opinion is a much greater sum than could be procured for the same at a more distant period, as an inexhaustible fund of coals has been discovered immediately upon the banks of the river, which will inevitably lessen the value of those at a distance from it, when the falls shall be opened; that it was always the intention of the testator, to have devised the said share of the coal-pits to the said Samuel in fee simple, until a short period before his death, when he was induced to devise the same in trust, to prevent the creditors of the said Samuel from wresting from his family all means of support; that the friends of the said Samuel have paid near 100,000 *lbs.* of tobacco in discharge of his debts, which they have given up to him, and are desirous that the said share of the pits may be sold, and the money vested in other lands and slaves, to be held agreeably to the limitations of the will, the profits of which will amply support his family.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said Samuel, William and Claiborne Du-Val, praying that the one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal-pits, devised in trust for the use of the said Samuel, may be sold, is reasonable.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That one half the purchase money should be vested in other lands, and the other half in slaves, to be held by the trustees for the use of the said Samuel during life, and his children, after his death, agreeably to the limitations in the will of the testator.

*Ordered,* That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolutions; and that the committee for Courts of Justice, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing several new ferries;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for establishing a town on the lands of James Gordon, in the county of Lancaster;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for dividing the county of Washington;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for adding part of the county of Rockbridge to the county of Botetourt;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," was committed, that the committee had,

according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to authorise the society of free masons in the city of Richmond, to raise a sum of money by way of lottery.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee to whom the bill “to approve, confirm and ratify the compact made by the commissioners appointed by the State of Maryland, and the commissioners appointed by this State, to regulate and settle the jurisdiction and navigation of Potomac and Pocomoke rivers, and that part of Chesapeake bay which lies within the territory of this State,” was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “for establishing religious freedom;” and the same being read, is as followeth:

Strike out the whole of the preamble to the bill, and insert “whereas, religion, or the duty which we owe to God, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force and violence; and therefore, all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience; and that it is the mutual duty of all to practice christian forbearance, love and charity, towards each other.”

And the question being put, that the House do agree to the said amendment;

It passed in the negative.

Ayes, 35.

Noes, 56.

*Resolved*, That this House disagree to the said amendment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made by Mr. Corbin, and seconded by Mr. Page;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question to agree to the said amendment, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Hugh Rose, Anthony New, John Tyler, Henry Southall, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Carter Henry Harrison, Joseph Jones, Miles King, Worlich Westwood, Alexander White, Thomas Smith, John Page, Thomas Mann Randolph, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, George Jackson, John Prunty, William Thornton, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, James Ball, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Ridick, Daniel Sandford, Abraham Beachum, John Gordon, Edward Bland, Williamson Ball, Thomas Ridley, William Garrard, Richard Cary and Richard Lee.

And the names of those who voted in the negative are, Joshua Fry, Wilson Cary Nicholas, Samuel Sherwin, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, George Hancock, John Clarke of Campbell, Charles Moil Talbot, Samuel Hawes, French Strother, Henry Fry, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, David Stuart, William Pickett, Christopher Greenup, James Garrard, George Thompson, Elias Wills, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Underwood, Jeremiah Pate, John Mayo, jun. John Rentfro, John Roberts, Francis Peyton, Richard Bland Lee, William White, Thomas Johnson, John Edwards, Benjamin Logan, Thomas Pettus, David Scott, William Pettijohn, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, David Shepherd, James Madison, Charles Porter, William Harrison, Benjamin Lankford, William Mayo, Richard Bibb, Cuthbert Bullitt, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Gawin Hamilton, Isaac Zane, George Stubblefield, John Whitaker Willis, Andrew Kincannon, William Russell and Thomas Matthews.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “to empower Robert Mackey and John Peyton, to build upon and convey certain lots in the common annexed to the town of Winchester;” and “for the restraint, maintenance and cure of persons not sound in mind.” And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing one from the Governor of New Hampshire, and an act of the Legislature of that State, respecting navigation and commerce; which were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee of the whole House upon the bill “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth.”

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill “for dividing the county of Fayette;” and the same being read, were agreed to.



*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and one disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Thompson reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco on the land of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to vest so much of the real estate of Robert Scott in trustees, to be sold for the payment of the several mortgages thereon, as will be sufficient for that purpose; and that Mr. Bullitt do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page have leave to be absent from the service of this House, until Tuesday se'nnight.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, to whom the petition of the members of the Presbyterian church, near Otter Peaks in Bedford county, praying for an incorporation of the elders of their church, was referred, be discharged therefrom; and that Messrs. Braxton, Goodall, Corbin, Tyler, John Trigg, Robert Clarke, and Turberville, do prepare and bring in a bill or bills, pursuant to the prayer of the said petition.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That it be an instruction to the committee for Courts of Justice, to prepare and bring in a bill or bills "to revive and explain so much of a former act of Assembly, as imposed a tax upon private acts;" passed the Legislature.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That a committee of three members be appointed to examine the books and accounts of the Public Foundry, at Westham; and that they report the state thereof to the House; and a committee was appointed, of Messrs. Richard Lee, Brent and Turberville.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, "for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal church;" and that Messrs. Nicholas, Meriwether Smith, Alexander White, Zachariah Johnston, Corbin, Braxton, and Thomas Smith, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Vanmiter presented, according to order, a bill "giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for the sale of certain lands;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth." And then he withdrew.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents, due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck to the proprietor;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the act, 'for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government, punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" "to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for imposing certain rates and duties on goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses, in collecting the revenues arising by customs;" and "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 11 o'clock.

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## FRIDAY, December 30, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to approve, confirm, and ratify the compact made by the commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, and the commissioners appointed by this State to regulate and settle the



jurisdiction and navigation of Potomac and Pocomoke rivers, and that part of Chesapeake bay which lieth within the territory of this State;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to approve, confirm, and ratify the compact made by certain commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, and commissioners appointed by this Commonwealth."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing an inspection of tobacco on the lands of John Lynch, in the county of Campbell;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing certain inspections of tobacco."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to establish a town on the lands of James Gordon in the county of Lancaster;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing several ferries;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

A bill "for dividing the county of Washington;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Russell, Kincannon, Sayres, Trigg, Bibb and Strother.

A bill, "for adding part of the county of Rockbridge to the county of Botetourt;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for keeping certain roads in repair;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill, "for the sale of certain public lands;" and the same being read, were agreed to. X

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

Mr. Eggleston reported, from the committee appointed to inquire into the progress made in settling the accounts of this Commonwealth against the United States, that the committee had, according to order, made inquiry into the same, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

Your committee find, that progress has been made in examining the said accounts, from the 13th of September 1775, to the 31st of December 1781; but in such examination, no decisions have been made by the continental commissioner, except upon some charges of paper money advanced to continental officers. Your committee, upon inquiry into the reasons why the continental commissioner has decided upon no charges, except those mentioned above, are informed by him, that he conceives the remainder of the accounts are unsupported by the general resolutions of Congress, which govern his conduct, and therefore, that he can do no more than report the several charges, and leave them to be decided upon by Congress.

Your committee knowing that representations have often been made to Congress, of the peculiar defect of vouchers to support the accounts of this State, in strict conformity to the general resolutions, (those resolutions requiring an immediate order of the United States in Congress assembled, or the order of some officer acting under their immediate authority, for the establishment of every charge,) and knowing also that a resolution did pass that honorable body, dated the 3d day of June 1784, subsequent to some of the representations above mentioned, which appears to your committee, calculated to remove such impediments as the Virginia accounts are under, they could not but be of opinion that those representations had some weight with Congress in its passage: They were therefore naturally led to inquire of the commissioner, why he did not exercise the powers they conceived were there given; to which his answer is, that by that resolution, he is directed to swear the claimant or claimants in case of defect of vouchers, or to take other evidence, the best the nature of the case will admit; and as he cannot administer an oath to the Commonwealth, the resolution can only be meant by Congress for the benefit of individuals: He further says, he has frequently written to those under whom he acts, for more full information upon the subject, but has not been answered except in general terms, to be governed by the existing resolutions of Congress.

Your committee cannot with propriety, undertake to censure the construction placed upon this resolution by the continental commissioner, as he can only be accountable to Congress for his opinions or conduct; nor will they undertake to decide positively, that Congress meant it to extend to the accounts of the several States where vouchers were

defective; but they conceive it fully practicable, within the common purpose of oaths, for the Commonwealth to obtain such a sanction to her accounts by an agent, if he can swear positively; and if not, no difficulty could arise in administering oaths to those who can give the best evidence the nature of the case will admit.

Your committee are of opinion, that unless some liberal plan is adopted for the adjustment of the accounts of this State against the United States, a very small proportion indeed of her just demands can be established, and that the continental commissioner might as well be recalled as continued.

Your committee are further of opinion, that as the wise and just intention of Congress must be to apportion the burthens of the late revolution upon all the parts sharing the benefits of it, there must be provision made for the adjustment of such of their accounts as arise for services rendered under extraordinary circumstances, and are unauthenticated by the general resolutions. The formality of claims may depend on those resolutions, but the justice of them must depend on the service rendered; and if it is found that resolutions, formed with views to regularity of proceedings, as in ordinary business, do not now apply to claims created in the sudden and irregular demands of the service; or in cases where an attention to those resolutions would have disappointed the very end for which such expenditures were to be made, such resolutions are, in the opinion of your committee, defective, not the claims; and it behooves Congress to adopt some measure which may effectually provide for their adjustment.

It appears to your committee, upon considering the very great variety of circumstances under which the claims of the different States have been created, that no defined powers to commissioners can be so concerted as to be adequate to the purpose, and that it will be best to establish a grand court of equity, composed of a member from each State, to be elected by Congress, to whose absolute decision all such claims shall be referred, to be decided upon according to the right and equity of each case, as well with respect to fact as evidence, without regard to any law or resolution of Congress whatsoever.

Your committee beg leave to observe, that the accounts of Virginia are thus defective, not less from the conduct or neglect of Congress, than the exigencies of the service; for, as far as your committee can learn, it was customary during the war, for an officer of rank, under the authority of Congress, to be placed in each State, to concert with such State any measures which might become necessary, and thereby a sanction, agreeably to the general plan of Congress, was obtained to every act; from some cause, with which your committee are unacquainted, this was not the case in Virginia: She was left to direct (under many exhortations of Congress, to the most effectual efforts, for the common benefit, as well as her own particular defence) such measures as she might think eligible; and being too remote from Congress and the commander in chief, to obtain the orders of either upon every particular occasion, her accounts must necessarily be unsupported by the general resolutions, unless indeed she had preferred the formality of her claims to that despatch, which in all such cases, is necessary to success: She in every case preferred the latter; and this adds, in the opinion of your committee, to the great justice of her claims, great merit also.

Your committee conceive it their duty to include in this report a few remarks upon a circumstance attending the claims of this State, considering it in the light of an aggregate of the individuals composing it, which operates greatly to the injury of this Commonwealth, inasmuch as it renders the receipt of facilities in taxes, an oppression which, to other States, is a great relief. Before the arrival of the continental commissioners for Virginia, which did not happen until towards the latter end of 1783, the citizens having become somewhat uneasy about their claims against the United States, and the General Assembly conceiving that a measure for adjusting and taking up such claims by means of the State, and giving out audited warrants for the same, might be of service to both the claimants and the United States, accordingly passed an act for that purpose; but it seems not to have occurred to the Legislature that those claims were entitled to an interest of six per centum per annum, which, had they remained in the hands of the people to be settled by the continental commissioner, must have been allowed; in this case, the citizens of this State would, like those of others, now have been possessed of funds in those facilities for paying the interest of the domestic debt, as far, perhaps, as their proportion amounts to; but as the matter now stands, they are called upon to pay the interest of this debt to others, whilst they have in their pockets audited claims against the public, bearing no such interest, which were originally contracted for the same purposes, and upon the same terms; and they are compelled to pay in cash, for the use and benefit of others, that which ought to be paid in paper for their own use and benefit.

Your committee are of opinion, that this transaction of the Legislature cannot have altered the nature of the claims; it does not in its consequences load the United States with more interest than they were bound to pay, nor can so innocent an act of the State cut off from its citizens an advantage declared by Congress to be due, of common right, to all their creditors: For these reasons, your committee are of opinion, that the State ought to be considered by Congress as standing in the place of the original claimants, with respect to those claims, and that all the interest which could have been obtained by such claimants, ought to be allowed to her for their use.

Your committee having agreed to the foregoing report, beg leave to submit to the consideration of the House, the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to be incessant in their endeavors to induce Congress to establish a grand court of equity to be composed of a member from each State, and elected by Congress, to whom all the claims of the different States against the United States, which are unsupported by legal vouchers, shall be referred, to be decided upon according to the equity of each case, without regard to any law or resolution of Congress whatsoever; or to adopt some other measure which may effectually and speedily provide for the adjustment of claims under such predicaments.

*Resolved*, That in all cases where any State hath taken up from the hands of its citizens claims against the United



States, such State ought to be considered as standing in the places of the original claimants, and ought to be allowed, for their use, all the interest which would have been allowed upon such claims if they had been adjusted by a commissioner of the United States; and that the delegates representing this State in Congress, ought to be instructed to insist upon such allowance being made.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Eggleston do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Garland have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed immediately to pay out of the contingent fund, to the honorable William Grayson, Esq. the sum of 114*l*. 9*d*., for making good the engagements by him entered into for defraying the funeral expenses of the late honorable Samuel Hardy, Esq. whose faithful and important services demand this token of his country's gratitude.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, Archibald Steel, a deputy quarter-master general in the continental service, made many purchases of the good citizens of this State, for which he gave bills expressing the sums due, but in many instances omitted to insert the articles for which they became due, and the commissioner of Congress conceives himself authorised to liquidate such only of those bills as contain a particular account of the articles furnished: And whereas, the time limited for bringing in such accounts, has not been generally published in that part of the State where the said Steel's purchases were made, and will expire the 1st day of March next, by which many individuals may be precluded from their just claims;

*Resolved, therefore*, That it be an instruction to the delegates of this State in Congress, to move Congress to authorise their commissioner to liquidate all such bills as shall be proved to him to be just, notwithstanding the articles for which the same became due are omitted; and that the time for bringing in such accounts may be prolonged.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" "to amend the several acts declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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## SATURDAY, December 31, 1785.

An engrossed bill, "for adding a part of the county of Rockbridge to the county of Botetourt;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for adding part of the county of Rockbridge to the county of Botetourt."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Vanniter do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to establish a town on the lands of James Gordon, in the county of Lancaster;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to establish a town on the lands of James Gordon in the county of Lancaster."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.



Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for ascertaining the boundary between the counties of Hanover and Henrico," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for discharging the funeral expenses of the honorable Samuel Hardy, deceased. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes,'" and the same being read, were amended, and agreed to.

Ordered. That Mr. Thomson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Nicholas presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river,'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing a town on the lands of William Mercer, in the county of Stafford;" also, to the resolution, respecting the certificates granted by Archibald Steel, a continental quarter-master. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Leighton Wood, jun. respecting his official conduct as solicitor general; which was read.

On a motion made,

Ordered, That the said letter be referred to the committee of Privileges and Elections; that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for establishing several new ferries," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

Ordered, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of William Evans, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that a negro man slave, named Sancho, the property of the petitioner, was in the year 1781, detected in giving intelligence to the enemy, and acting as a pilot to them; that for the said offence he was tried by a court martial, condemned and executed; previous to which, he was valued to 80*l.* specie.

It further appears to your committee, that when the said slave was taken, he was a runaway, and a fellow of very bad character.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said William Evans, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be empowered to grant him a warrant for the valuation of his said slave Sancho, and that the same may be paid to him by the public, be rejected.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petitions of Henry Mann and William Rose, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the petitioners were in the year 1777, appointed assistant quarter-masters at the garrisons of Williamsburg and Hampton, under Col. Finnie, formerly quarter-master general of the State, and acted under their said appointments till the beginning of the year 1780, and received in paper money, the pay allowed them for their services.

It further appears to your committee, that the petitioners conceiving themselves entitled to depreciation upon their pay, applied to the auditors for a settlement of their accounts, and were refused; because the commissioners did not think they were entitled to depreciation under the laws granting depreciation to the officers and soldiers of this State.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petitions of the said Henry Mann and William Rose, be rejected.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the petition of William Johnston, was recommitted, that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of the said William Johnston, setting forth, that under the act of Assembly, "for supplying the army with clothes, provisions and wagons, he did in the month of February 1781, furnish the county of Hampshire with a wagon and team, which was valued to 160*l.* specie;" that the said

specie valuation was by the said court levied for him in paper money, a small part of which was collected and paid to the petitioner, but an insurrection happening in part of the said county, prevented a farther collection thereof, until it had so depreciated as to induce the petitioner to refuse the balance of the said paper money, when tendered to him as a payment for his said wagon and team, and praying relief, is reasonable; and the court of the said county of Hampshire, ought to examine the petitioner's claim, and levy in his favor such a farther sum of money, as he shall appear to be entitled to, upon such investigation.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that the committee of Claims do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, to whom the resolution upon the petition of Thomas Gist, was recommended, that the committee had, according to order, again had the same under their consideration, and had agreed to a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the information of Col. Benjamin Temple, that the petitioner was, in the year 1758, a lieutenant in the 1st Virginia regiment, and at the defeat of Major Grant, received a wound, and was made a prisoner by the Indians, which induced the General Assembly, to allow him an annuity of 40*l*. per annum for life.

It further appears to your committee, from the deposition of Mr. Dorsey Pentecost, that he has been acquainted with the petitioner upwards of 15 years, during which acquaintance, he has uniformly supported a good character, and that during the late war, he was in the service of the United States, and also of this State.

It further appears to your committee, that from the extent of the late boundary line between the State of Pennsylvania and this State, that the petitioner is included in the boundary of the former, and is an inhabitant thereof.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That so much of the petition of the said Thomas Gist, as prays that he may be continued on the list of pensioners, and his said annuity of 40*l*. per annum, allowed to him during life, be rejected.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That such other parts of the said petition, as pray for payment of arrearages of pension, be rejected.

The House proceeded to consider a resolution which lay on the table, respecting Loan Office certificates; and the same being read, is as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the auditors of public accounts be, and they are hereby directed, to register all certificates granted for monies loaned this State, and reduce the same to specie valuation, and issue warrants for interest which may be due thereon; which warrants shall be receivable for taxes in the same manner as those heretofore issued on certificates registered prior to the 1st day of May last.

And the said resolution being read a second time was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bibb do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, it is just and expedient that all debts due to the citizens of this Commonwealth, upon liquidated accounts of agents or persons authorised to contract debts payable in tobacco, or for any other just demand, and which have not heretofore been provided for by any of the revenue laws, either in part or the whole;

*Resolved*, That all such accounts shall be adjusted by the auditors of public accounts, and an interest allowed on all such debts from the time of their becoming due. The tobacco claims to be brought into money by the said auditors, at a fair valuation, allowing an interest upon them. All interest so arising, certificates shall be granted for by the said auditors, which shall be receivable in all taxes by any sheriff or collector, and be so admitted by the treasurer for the time being.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of John Ball, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the protest of William Lavis, master, and Matthew Cooke, mate, of the ship *Renown*; that the petitioner was on the 4th day of March 1781, owner of the said ship *Renown*; that the said ship was then in port in James river, loaded with 183 hogsheads of crop tobacco, from the warehouses of Shockoe's and Byrd's, mounting 20 guns, provided with a considerable quantity of goods, muskets, ammunition and stores, and equipped ready for sea, having received her letters and orders for sailing; that on the said 4th day of March 1781, Thomas Jefferson, Esq. then Governor, meditating a descent upon the British garrison at Portsmouth, in conjunction with a French squadron then daily expected within the capes, took the said ship into the service of the State, which together with her loading, were considered at the risk of the State, and promised that a reasonable hire should be paid for the use of the said vessel and her crew; that the said ship was employed in public service for the space of twenty-six days, and was then discharged, during which time she might probably have got out safe to sea, and have reached her destined port, but for the detention aforesaid, as two or three vessels actually did pass the enemy's ships in James river and got safe out; that a large British fleet shortly afterwards arrived, and proceeded up the river, together with detachments of troops, and captured the said ship *Renown* with her cargo aforesaid.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of Miles King, Esq. that soon after the said descent upon the British garrison at Portsmouth was meditated, a French squadron arrived in James river; that he went on



board the said squadron and carried with him several pilots, who upon a consultation, suggested much danger in getting the said squadron up Elizabeth river; that this difficulty, together with an apprehension of the arrival of a superior British fleet, induced the commodore of the said squadron to decline the said attack upon Portsmouth, and that his stay in James river was only about four days; that during the said space of four days, the informant conceives it would have been impossible for the master of the said ship *Renown*, to have received information of the bay and river being clear of British ships, and to have fallen down the river and got out to sea, and that to get out at any other time was from the general situation of the enemy's ships, and the burthen of the said ship *Renown*, equally as impracticable.

It further appears to your committee, from the said informant, that a great number of vessels were taken by the enemy in attempting to get out to sea about that time; but that two or three small vessels which drew little water, did pass the enemy's ships and got safe out, one of which (a small brig called the *Polly Holker*) as the informant heard, having previously obtained a British passport.

It further appears to your committee, from the information of Richard Cary, jun. Esq. that from the situation of the enemy's ships of war in James river, about the time that the said ship *Renown* is said to have been ready to sail, that if the attempt had been made, she must have failed and been captured.

It further appears to your committee, that many claims similar to the petitioner's, have been rejected;

*Whereupon, resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That so much of the petition of the said John Ball, as prays that the value of the said ship *Renown*, together with her cargo, may be paid to him by the public, in consequence of her capture happening from her being taken into the service of this State, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That such other parts of the said petition, as pray that the said petitioner may receive payment for the hire of the said ship, during the time that she was employed in the service of the State, being twenty-six days, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the last resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

**X** MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters, and for other purposes.'" And then he withdrew.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of Robert Patterson, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that from the particular situation of the inhabitants of the Kentucky country, owing to the depredations of the Indians in the year 1781, the petitioner (from the absence of the county lieutenant of Fayette) was induced for the common safety of the people, to engage and keep out spies on the frontiers; that he accordingly employed four persons in that service, who refusing to trust the public, the petitioner gave them severally his own note of hand for payment of their wages: upon two of which, suits have been brought and judgment obtained thereupon, which he has been obliged to discharge, with the costs: and to prevent suits being instituted upon the other two notes, he has also discharged them; that upon application to the auditors, they have refused to reimburse him the said several sums of money, which he has advanced and paid on public account.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said Robert Patterson, praying relief, is reasonable; and that the auditors ought to issue warrants in favor of the petitioner for the pay of the said spies as allowed by law, during the time they were in service, and also for all the costs of the said suits.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, the petition of Thomas Dawson, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that during the late war the petitioner entered into the navy of this State, and served as a midshipman; that during the invasion of the year 1781, he was employed to carry some public dispatches, and whilst in that service was taken by a party of the enemy, and was very dangerously wounded.

It further appears to your committee, that the death of the petitioner's commanding officer, has prevented him from obtaining his discharge from the service, without which, he cannot get his account for his depreciation of pay settled and allowed to him.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee*, That the petition of the said Thomas Dawson, praying that the auditors of public accounts may be empowered to liquidate and settle his accounts for his depreciation of pay and subsistence during the time that he was considered as a midshipman in the navy of this State, and grant him certificates agreeably thereto, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and col-



lecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be citizens of this Commonwealth;" "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, January 2, 1786.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Nelson have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

An engrossed bill, "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico, and for other purposes."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for establishing several ferries;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up."

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for establishing several new ferries."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for declaring and improving the navigation of James river;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Clendennin, Hancock, Nicholas, Thomson, and Cabell.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "appropriating certain arrears of public taxes to the opening a wagon road from the eastern to the western waters;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "for forming a new county out of the counties of Augusta and Botetourt;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "concerning refused tobacco," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read;

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, do lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws, 'for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a farther progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to give further powers to the trustees of the town of York;" and that Messrs. Prentis and Matthews, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" and that Messrs. Carrington, Tyler, Thruston and Cropper, do prepare and bring in the same.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for safekeeping the land papers of the Northern Neck in the register's office;" and "to amend the act, for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river." And then he withdrew.

Mr. Russell reported, from the committee to whom the bill "for dividing the county of Washington," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendments thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Commerce, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, enti-

tled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;' and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Bradford presented, according to order, a bill "to add that part of the county of Yohogania, situate above Cross Creek, and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and the river Ohio to the county of Ohio;" and the same was received and read the first time and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Clendennin presented, according to order, a bill "concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and that Messrs. Madison, White, and Tyler, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill, "to empower the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the parish of Beckford, in the county of Shenandoah, to elect a vestry;" and that Mr. Zane do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, describing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties on goods, wares, and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, January 3, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "for dividing the county of Washington;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for dividing the county of Washington."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "to add that part of the county of Yohogania, situate above Cross Creek, and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and the river Ohio, to the county of Ohio;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "appropriating certain arrears of public taxes to the opening a wagon road from the eastern to the western waters;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for forming a new county out of the counties of Augusta and Botetourt;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Tyler presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to revive and explain so much of a former act, as imposed a tax or duty on private acts of Assembly;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison presented, according to order, a bill "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentiss presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for appointing trustees to convey a tract of land, the property of Elizabeth Dalton, to David Chevis;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Prentiss presented, according to order, a bill "for giving further powers to the trustees of the town of York;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Carrington presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue into one act;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:



MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “for adding part of the county of Rockbridge to the county of Botetourt;” and “for giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon.” And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, again resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the bill “to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Alexander White reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. David Scott, Henry Fry, Jackson and Pettijohn, have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session; and Mr. Zachariah Johnston until Saturday next.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth, to whom was referred a petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Fairfax, be discharged from further proceeding thereon; and that the same be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth.’”

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for establishing a town on the land of James Gordon, in the county of Lancaster.” And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “to ascertain and secure the rights of the inhabitants situate between the temporary and fixed boundary run between the State of Pennsylvania and this Commonwealth;” and that Messrs. Bradford and Thruston do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill “for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck of Virginia;” and that Messrs. Mercer, Tyler, Simms, Bullitt, and David Stuart, do prepare and bring in the same.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;” “for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;” “for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;” “punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;” “to revive an act, entitled ‘an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers’ fees, and for other purposes;” “to repeal in part the act, ‘for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;” “to amend the several acts declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;” “for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;” “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;” “for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;” and “for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs;” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o’clock.

### WEDNESDAY, January 4, 1786.

An engrossed bill, “appropriating certain arrears of public taxes to the opening a wagon road from the eastern to the western waters;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, appropriating certain arrears of public taxes to the opening a wagon road from the eastern to the western waters.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clendennin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “to add that part of the county of Yohogania, situate above Cross Creek and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and the river Ohio, to the county of Ohio;” was read the third time.



*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to add that part of the county of Yohogania, situate above Cross Creek and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and the river Ohio, to the county of Ohio."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Bradford do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions directing the auditors to liquidate certain Loan Office certificates, and respecting the settlement of the continental accounts; also, to the bill "to approve, confirm and ratify the compact made by certain commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, and commissioners appointed by this Commonwealth;" also, they do agree to the amendment proposed by this House, to their amendment to the bill "for reviving and continuing an act, 'to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes.'" And then he withdrew.

A bill, "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for giving further powers to the trustees of the town of York;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "to revive and explain so much of a former act as imposed a tax or duty on private acts of Assembly;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Corbin, Alexander White, Zane, Matthews, Prentiss, Meriwether Smith, and Tyler.

A bill, "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts of Assembly for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Tyler reported, from the committee of Privileges and Elections, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the letter of Leighton Wood, jun. to them referred, and had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the conduct of Thomas Underwood, Esq. a member of this House, and one of the committee appointed to examine the auditors' and solicitor's offices merits the approbation of the House, and manifests a laudable zeal for the public interest; and that the letter of the said Leighton Wood, respecting the same, was not intended, by the acknowledgment of the said Wood made to the committee, to affect the privileges of this House, or any of its members, but only as an explanation and justification of his official conduct as solicitor general.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing several new ferries," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. William Harrison have leave to be absent from the service of this House for the remainder of the session.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, authorising the Executive to appoint commissioners to settle with commissioners to be appointed by the State of Pennsylvania, any disputes respecting the titles of land formerly supposed to be in Virginia, but by the late session fallen into Pennsylvania; also, to the bill "for re-forming the county courts," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and they do insist upon their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing several new ferries;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for re-forming the county courts;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Alexander White do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That the committee of Claims do examine into the expenses incurred by William Hubbard, in the cure of a wound which he received in the battle of Germantown, while in the continental service, and report the same, with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the

Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs in this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties on goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" and "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth,' being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, January 5, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Cabell do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Mercer presented, according to order, a bill "for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck;" and the same being received and read the first time, was ordered to be read a second time.

An engrossed bill, "to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for giving further powers to the trustees of the town of York;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for giving further powers to the trustees of the town of York."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentiss do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions for granting a bounty of lands to Samuel Overton Pettus; for paying a sum of money to Robert Patterson; and directing the auditors to liquidate the accounts of Thomas Dawson; also, to the bill "concerning public roads." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for ascertaining the boundary between the counties of Hanover and Henrico, and for other purposes," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to on Friday last, to the bill "to amend the act, for establishing a board of auditors, and for other purposes;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Thomas Smith reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and

vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs within this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties on goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act,' being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, January 6, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "to amend the act, for establishing the board of auditors;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for the re-form of certain public boards."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A bill, "for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

Mr. Corbin presented, according to order, a bill "to repeal the act, to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to add that part of the county of Yohogania, situate above Cross Creek, and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and the River Ohio, to the county of Ohio;" "for dividing the county of Washington," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and "concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia," with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for ascertaining the boundary between the counties of Hanover and Henrico, and for other purposes;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Carter Henry Harrison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison and Monongalia;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Clendennin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for dividing the county of Washington;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments, and doth agree to the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

An engrossed bill, "for forming the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, concerning the erection of the district of Kentucky into an independent State."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Garrard do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "to authorise the trustees of Samuel Du-Val, jun. to sell the one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal-pit lands, and to lay out the money arising from the sale thereof in other lands and slaves, for the greater benefit of the said Samuel Du-Val, jun. and his children;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin presented, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, according to order, a bill "to establish a town on the lands of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration, two petitions from the county of Campbell, to them referred, and had come to



several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers inhabitants of the said county of Campbell, praying that a court for the said county may be held at the centre thereof, or on the land of Micajah Moreman, be rejected.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the petition of divers other inhabitants of the said county, in opposition thereto, is reasonable.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the memorial of Bernard Gratz, Joseph Simons, Edmund Mills and Michael Gratz, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report and come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that in the year 1749, Colonel George Croghan purchased from the Chiefs of the Six Nations, for a valuable consideration, a tract of land lying on the south side of the river Monongalia, and running with the said river to its junction with the Ohio; thence with the Ohio to the mouth of Raccoon creek; thence up the said creek ten miles; thence a straight line to the beginning.

It appears to your committee, that at a treaty held at fort Stanwix, in the year 1768, where the Chiefs of the Six Nations were fully assembled, they acknowledged the justice of the said Croghan's purchase, and renewed their grant to him by deed, duly proved and recorded in the proper office in the city of Philadelphia in the year 1769, and afterwards in the court of Augusta county; that it is expressly stipulated in the said deed, that in case any part of the said tract of land shall thereafter be found to be within the limits of Pennsylvania, that the said George Croghan shall be entitled to a compensation in other lands at that time ceded by the said Six Nations to the King of Great Britain.

It further appears to your committee, from an authentic copy of the treaty above mentioned, between the Six Nations and the commissioners appointed by the King of Great Britain, that the Chiefs acknowledged that the said George Croghan had fairly purchased, and requested as one of the conditions on which they agreed to cede the lands to the crown, that in case any part of Croghan's purchase should be within the limits of Pennsylvania, that he should receive a compensation in the lands at that time ceded to the King of Great Britain; that the said George Croghan held the said lands so conveyed to him, and expended a considerable sum in surveying and improving the same; that afterwards the said Croghan being indebted to the memorialists, viz: to Bernard Gratz, in the sum of 11,839*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.*; to Joseph Simons, in the sum of 2,259*l.* 10*s.*; to Edmund Mills, in the sum of 500*l.*; and to the said Michael Gratz, in the sum of 4,200*l.*; conveyed to the said Bernard Gratz 50,627 1-2 acres; to the said Joseph Simons 10,560 acres; to the said Edmund Mills 2000 acres; and to the said Michael Gratz 18,700 acres of the said land, which they severally held and improved at a considerable expense, until the year 1779, when the General Assembly passed an act, entitled "an act, declaring and asserting the rights of this Commonwealth, concerning the purchasing of lands from the Indians;" by the operation of which, the legal titles of the memorialists are taken away; that the lands conveyed by the said George Croghan to the memorialists, were on the Virginia side of the line, which it was supposed would have divided this State from that of Pennsylvania, prior to the cession made to the State of Pennsylvania, but now fall entirely within that State; that in the month of November 1779, a petition was presented by the memorialists to the General Assembly upon this subject, when they came to the following resolution thereupon:

*"Resolved,* That the memorial of Bernard Gratz, in behalf of himself and others, be rejected; for that if they have any legal or equitable claim to the lands conveyed to them by George Croghan, such claim should be investigated and determined in a court of law or equity;" that the before recited act, will unquestionably preclude a court of law or equity from investigating the rights of the memorialists.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the case of the said Bernard Gratz and others, as stated in the foregoing report, ought to be referred for decision to the Court of Appeals; and that the attorney general advocate the cause in behalf of the Commonwealth.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the said Court of Appeals ought to be governed, in the decision of the said claim, by the laws of this country in force prior to the year 1779; and if in their opinion the memorialists were entitled to the said lands, then compensation ought to be made them.

And the said resolutions being severally read a second time were, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for restricting foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth;" also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, 'to amend the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend the act, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs within this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenues arising by customs;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appropriating the public revenue, into one act," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### SATURDAY, January 7, 1786.

A bill, "to repeal the act, 'to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to repeal the act of Assembly, 'for establishing the town of Walkerton."

"An act, for the naturalization of the Marquis de la Fayette."

"An act, for reviving and continuing the act, 'for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for public service."

"An act, authorising the treasurer to receive specie into the public treasury by weight."

"An act, for giving further time to the proprietors of lots in the town of Bath, to make improvements thereon."

"An act, 'to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for vesting in George Washington, Esq. a certain interest in the companies established for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers."

"An act, concerning the taxes due in the county of Rockingham, for the year 1784."

"An act, for securing to the authors of literary works, an exclusive property therein, for a limited time."

"An act, appointing trustees for the town of Suffolk, and for enlarging the same."

"An act, for adding part of the county of Nansemond, to that of Southampton."

"An act, concerning the public treasurer."

"An act, for the appointment of clerks to the Governor and Council."

"An act, empowering one of the Privy Council to officiate as Lieutenant Governor in certain cases."

"An act, concerning escheators."

"An act, for forming a new county out of the counties of Bedford and Henry."

"An act, for the appointment of harbor masters, and declaring their duty."

"An act, for incorporating trustees for establishing and conducting a seminary of learning at the town of Fincastle, in the county of Botetourt."

"An act, directing the course of descents."

"An act, for the preservation of the estates of idiots and lunatics."

"An act, to prevent losses by pirates, enemies and others, on the high seas."

"An act, for regulating the streets in, and adjoining to the town of Alexandria."

"An act, for improving the breed of horses."

"An act, to repeal 'an act, entitled 'an act, to provide for the more effectual collection of the tax of 5s. per hundred acres on lands granted by patents, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom."

"An act, to prevent the circulation of private bank notes."

"An act, concerning aliens."

"An act, concerning mill-dams, and other obstructions of water courses."

"An act, to prevent distress being made by the sheriffs of this Commonwealth, for the taxes due for the present year, and admitting facilities in payment thereof."

"An act, to revive 'an act, entitled 'an act, to appoint commissioners to state and settle the losses sustained by the burning the warehouses at Rocky Ridge."

"An act, declaring what persons shall be deemed mulattoes."

"An act, directing what prisoners shall be let to bail."

"An act, for the restitution of stolen goods."

"An act, for regulating conveyances."

"An act, to prevent frauds and perjuries."



"An act, declaring that none shall be condemned without trial, and that justice shall not be sold or deferred."  
 "An act, providing that wrongful alienations of land shall be void so far as they be wrongful."  
 "An act, to enable guardians and committees to perform certain acts for the benefit of those who are under their care."

"An act, concerning the dower and jointure of widows."  
 "An act, to amend the several acts of Assembly, 'concerning the appointment of sheriffs.'  
 "An act, for preventing the infection of the horned cattle."  
 "An act, concerning wills, the distribution of intestates estates, and the duty of executors and administrators."  
 "An act, concerning servants."  
 "An act, concerning guardians, infants, masters, and apprentices."  
 "An act, for levying and regulating taverns."  
 "An act, concerning slaves."  
 "An act, for dividing the county of Hampshire."  
 "An act, for dividing the county of Lincoln, into three distinct counties."  
 "An act, concerning estrays."  
 "An act, giving powers to the Governor and Council in certain cases."  
 "An act, for unlading ballast and burial of dead bodies from on board ships."  
 "An act, for apprehending and securing runaways."  
 "An act, concerning election of members of General Assembly."  
 "An act, to empower Robert Mackey and John Peyton to build upon, and convey certain lots in the common annexed to the town of Winchester."

"An act, for the restraint, maintenance, and cure of persons not sound in mind."  
 "An act, for the sale of certain public lands."  
 "An act, for safe keeping the land papers of the Northern Neck, in the register's office."  
 "An act, for adding part of the county of Rockbridge to the county of Botetourt."  
 "An act, for giving further time to the purchasers of lots in the town of Moorefield, to build thereon."  
 A bill, "to authorise the trustees of Samuel Du-Val, jun. to sell the one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal-pits, and to lay out the money arising from the sale thereof, in other lands and slaves, for the greater benefit of the said Samuel Du-Val, jun. and his children;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for establishing a town on the lands of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Prentis presented, from the committee for Courts of Justice, according to order, a bill "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the claim of Oliver Pollock, as liquidated and adjusted by order of the Executive, be paid out of the same funds, and in the same proportions, as are or may be provided for debts due from the Commonwealth to foreign creditors; and that previous to any further payment to such foreign creditors, the said Oliver Pollock shall be paid the same proportion of his claim, as has been paid to the aforesaid creditors.

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed to issue warrants upon the treasury, according to the foregoing resolution, in favor of said Oliver Pollock, bearing an interest of six per cent. annually, retaining so much from the amount of said Pollock's claim, as will secure the State against any loss on account of the protested bills of exchange not yet brought in, pursuant to the report of the last commissioners appointed to examine the said claim; and that a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress.

And the said resolutions being severally twice read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for putting Cadett James on the list of pensioners. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House a letter from Colonel Le Maire, respecting the payment of his claim against the State; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thurston reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received on Monday.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "to decide the payment of quitrents, due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and col-



lecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes;" "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to amend the several acts declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs within this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" and "for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

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### MONDAY, January 9, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "to repeal the act, 'to authorise the auditors to grant new warrants and certificates in certain cases;" was read the third time; and the question being put that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

An engrossed bill, "to establish a town on the lands of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to establish a town on the lands of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to authorise the trustees of Samuel Du-Val, jun. to sell one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal pits, and to lay out the money arising from the sale thereof in other lands and slaves, for the greater benefit of the said Samuel Du-Val, jun. and his children;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the trustees of Samuel Du-Val, jun. to sell one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal pits, and to lay out the money arising from the sale thereof in other lands and slaves, for the greater benefit of the said Samuel Du-Val, jun. and his children."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, doubts have arisen, from what period interest upon warrants granted for slaves executed, should commence;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the auditors of public accounts be authorised and directed, in granting the interest upon all warrants for slaves executed, pursuant to the legal sentence of any court for any capital offence, to allow the same from the time of the execution of such slaves, respectively.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomas Smith do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "granting certificates to certain persons of the Virginia line and navy, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; also, they do insist on their amendment disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing religious freedom;" and do desire a free conference with this House on the subject matter thereof. And then he withdrew.

A bill, "for further continuing the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A bill, "for appointing trustees to convey a tract of land, the property of Charlotte Dalton, to David Chevis;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to revive and explain so much of a former act, as imposed a tax or duty on private acts of Assembly," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Zaue presented, according to order, a bill "to empower the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the parish of Beckford in the county of Shenandoah, to elect a vestry;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "granting certificates to certain persons of the Virginia line and navy, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “to suspend the operation of the act, entitled ‘an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize;’” “for giving further powers to the trustees of the town of York;” and “appropriating certain arrears of public taxes to the opening a wagon road from the eastern to the western waters.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “granting certificates to certain persons of the Virginia line and navy, for five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life.” And then he withdrew.

Mr. Thruston reported, from the committee of the whole House, the amendments agreed to on Saturday last, to the bill “for restricting foreign vessels from entering certain ports within this Commonwealth;” and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House doth agree to the free conference desired by the Senate on the subject matter of their amendment, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by them, to the bill “for establishing religious freedom.”

*Resolved*, That Messrs. Madison, Zachariah Johnston, and Innes, be appointed to manage the conference on the part of this House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;” “for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;” “for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;” “punishing certain offences and vesting the Governor with certain powers;” “to revive an act, entitled ‘an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers’ fees, and for other purposes;’” “to repeal in part the act, for amending the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;” “to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;” “for appointing officers of the customs within this Commonwealth, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;” “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;” “for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;” “for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;” “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;’” and “for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o’clock.

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## TUESDAY, January 10, 1786.

An engrossed bill, “appointing trustees to convey a tract of land, the property of Charlotte Dalton, to David Chevis;” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, ‘an act, for appointing trustees to convey a tract of land, the property of Charlotte Dalton, to David Chevis.’

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for further continuing the act, entitled ‘an act, to empower the Judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail;’” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to revive an act, entitled ‘an act, to empower the Judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail.’”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for forming a new county out of the counties of Augusta and Botetourt;” was read the third time; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

An engrossed bill, “to revive and explain so much of a former act, as imposed a tax or duty on private acts of Assembly;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, to revive, explain and amend so much of a former act, as imposed a tax or duty on private acts of Assembly.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for

regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding on the bills "to repeal in part the act, for amending the several acts, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" "to decide the payment of quitrents due from the inhabitants of the Northern Neck;" and "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers fees, and for other purposes.'"

*Ordered*, That the bill, entitled "an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers fees, and for other purposes;" be committed to Messrs. Madison, Strother and Corbin.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the said bill be engrossed, and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from one, and insist on another of their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico, and for other purposes." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to amend and reduce into one act the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "concerning the erection of the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" and "for the reform of certain public boards;" with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

Mr. Matthews reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made no amendment thereto.

*Ordered*, That the bill be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That this House will, on Thursday next, proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle with a commissioner appointed or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this Commonwealth in the acquisition and defence of the territory northwestward of the river Ohio, in the room of the honorable Edward Carrington, Esq. who hath resigned.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river, to Pasquotank river, in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" and "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.



WEDNESDAY, January 11, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river ;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for disposing of certain lands lying in the Northern Neck ;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

An engrossed clause, was offered to be added to the said bill by way of ryder, requiring the commissioners to enter into bond and security for the faithful performance of the duties required of them, and for allowing them a compensation for their trouble; and the said engrossed clause being read three times was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House, to be added to the said bill, by way of ryder.

*Resolved*, That the bill, with the ryder, do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for disposing of certain lands, lying in the Northern Neck."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" was read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the said bill be recommitted to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Browne:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the payment of Oliver Pollock's account against the State. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for reviving an act, to empower the judges of the General Court, to superintend and regulate the public jail;" and "for appointing trustees to convey a tract of land, the property of Charlotte Dalton, to David Chevis;" also, they do insist upon their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill, "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and they do agree to proceed by joint ballot with this House, on Thursday next, to the choice of a commissioner to settle the account of the expenditures of this State, in acquiring and defending the western territory. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate, disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments, and doth agree to the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to authorise the trustees of Samuel Du-Val, jun. to sell the one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal-pits, and to lay out the money arising from the sale thereof in other lands and slaves, for the greater benefit of the said Samuel Du-Val, jun. and his children." And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Du-Val:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing a town on the land of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

An engrossed bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" was read the third time; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Ayes, 50.

Noes, 46.

*Resolved*, That the title of the bill be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thruston do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made by Mr. Cabell, and seconded by Mr. Truberville;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes, on the question for the passage of the said bill, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, John Cropper, Thomas Parramore, Joseph Eggleston, Samuel Hawes, John Tyler, Henry Southall, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Edward Carrington, Carter Henry Harrison, Miles King, Worlich Westwood, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, Christopher Greenup, Thomas Smith, Andrew Donnelly, George Clendennin, John Lucas, Edmund Wilkins, Isaac Coles, Park Goodall, Garland Anderson, William Norvell, William Walker, William Dudley, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, Francis Peyton, William White, Lewis Burwell, Francis Corbin, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, William Hartwell Macon, Willis Wilson, Daniel Sandford, John Gordon, David Shepherd, James Madison, Abraham Bird, John Tay-

lor, George Stubblefield, John Francis Mercer, Richard Cary, Wilson Cary, Joseph Prentis, James Innes and Thomas Matthews.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Joshua Fry, Hugh Rose, Samuel Jordan Cabell, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, John Clarke of Campbell, Charles Moil Talbot, John Daniel, Edmund Read, French Strother, Joseph Jones, William Pickett, Thomas Helm, Elias Wills, Charles Mimm Thruston, Thomas Mann Randolph, Thomas Underwood, Isaac Vanmiter, John Prunty, Nathaniel Wilkinson, John Mayo, jun. William Thornton, Richard Bland Lee, Thomas Johnston, Christopher Robertson, Benjamin Logan, Robert Sayres, Daniel Trigg, Abraham Beachum, David Bradford, Charles Porter, John Clarke of Prince Edward, Richard Bibb, Daniel Carroll Brent, George Lee Turberville, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Gawin Hamilton, Isaac Zane, John Whitaker Willis, John Howell Briggs, Richard Lee, Andrew Kincaannon and William Russell.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for disposing of waste lands in the Northern Neck;" and that Messrs. Tyler, Mercer, and Thruston, do prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for appointing escheators in the Northern Neck;" and that Mr. Simms, do prepare and bring in the same.

A bill, "to empower the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the parish of Beckford, in the county of Shenandoah, to elect a vestry;" was read the second time, amended at the clerk's table, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties on goods, wares and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" and "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

#### THURSDAY, January 12, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "to empower the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the parish of Beckford, in the county of Shenandoah, to elect a vestry;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to authorise the election of certain vestries."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Markham reported, from the committee to whom the bill "concerning the refused tobacco," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing a town on the lands of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and insisted on by the Senate, to the bill "granting certificates to certain persons of the Virginia line and navy, for five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prentis do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have appointed managers on the part of their House to meet the managers on the part of this House, in free conference on the subject matter of the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing religious freedom;" and they are now attending in the conference chamber. And then he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That the managers on the part of this House, do now withdraw.

The managers accordingly withdrew; and after some time, returned into the House and reported, that they had, according to order, met the managers on the part of the Senate, in free conference, and fully discussed the subject matter of the amendment of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing religious freedom."

Mr. Turberville reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others, to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Turberville do carry said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson :

MR. SPEAKER.—The Senate have disagreed to the amendments proposed by this House, to their amendments, to the bill “for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico, and for other purposes;” and they do adhere to their said amendments. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker laid before the House, a letter from the Governor, enclosing a letter from Arthur Lee, Esq. one of the commissioners of the continental board of treasury; and one other from the Governor of the State of Massachusetts, covering an act of the Legislature of that State, which were read.

*Ordered*, That the letter from Arthur Lee, Esq. be referred to the committee of the whole House, upon the bill “to amend an act, entitled “an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appropriating the public revenue, into one act.”

*Ordered*, That the rest of the said papers be referred to the committee of the whole House, on the bill “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes.”

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which they had directed him to report when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle with a commissioner appointed or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State, in acquiring and defending the western territory; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills “for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;” “for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;” “to amend the several acts declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;” “for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;” “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;” “for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;” “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;’” “for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;” and “for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers,” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## FRIDAY, January 13, 1786.

An engrossed bill, “concerning refused tobacco,” was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up; and the question being put, that the said bill do pass,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

Mr. Tyler presented, according to order, a bill “to dispose of certain waste and unappropriated lands in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;” and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;’” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentiss reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made a further progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendment of the Senate, to the bill “for establishing religious freedom;” and the same being read, and several amendments proposed to be made thereunto,

*Resolved*, That the House doth recede from their disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, to the bill “for establishing religious freedom;” and do agree to the said amendment, with amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Turberville do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.



*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, respecting the interest upon warrants for slaves executed for capital offences, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell :

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

MR. BRAXTON reported, from the committee of Commerce, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration sundry resolutions from the General Assembly of Maryland, to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again read, and are as followeth :

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That this State should concur with the State of Maryland, in making a joint application to Congress, for their consent to form a compact for the purpose of affording in due time, and in just proportion between the two States, naval protection to such part of Chesapeake bay and Potomac river, which may at any time hereafter be left unprovided for by Congress ; and that such compact when made, be laid before Congress for their approbation ; and that such compact, if approved, should continue until mutually dissolved by the two States, or until Congress shall declare that such compact ought no longer to exist.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the delegates from this State to Congress, ought to be authorised and requested to make such application on behalf of this State, in conjunction with the delegates from the State of Maryland to Congress, or with such other persons as the Legislature of Maryland shall appoint for that purpose.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That foreign gold and silver coin received in the two States as the current money thereof, should pass in the two governments at the same value, according to its fineness and weight ; and that if the specie or coin could be regulated at the same nominal value, it would be of great convenience to the commerce between the citizens of the two States.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the damages on foreign bills of exchange protested, ought to be the same in both States, and that foreign protested bills of exchange should be considered in all cases, and to all purposes, as of equal rank with debts upon contract, in writing, signed by the party.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That drafts by the merchants of either State, upon those of the other, in the nature of inland bills of exchange, should be subject by law to official protest by a notary public ; and that the damages for non-payment should be the same in both States.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That it is essential to the commerce and revenue of the State of Maryland and of this State, that duties, imports or exports, if laid, should be the same in both States ; and that it is proper for the Legislatures of the said States, at their annual meeting in the autumn, to appoint commissioners to meet and communicate the regulations of commerce, and duties proposed by each State ; and to confer on such subjects as may concern the commercial interests of both States, and within the power of the respective States ; and that the number of the said commissioners should be equal, not less than three, nor more than five from each State ; and they should annually meet in the third week of September, if required by the Legislature of either State, or the commissioners thereof, at such place as they should appoint.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the 4th and 6th resolutions be communicated to the Legislatures of all the States in the Union ; and that they be requested to nominate commissioners for the purposes expressed in the 6th resolution, and that his excellency the Governor be requested to transmit immediately copies of the said resolutions to those States.

The 1st, 2d, 4th, 6th and 7th resolutions were severally read a second time ; and on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

The 3d and 5th resolutions were severally read a second time ; and on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the 1st, 2d, 4th, 6th and 7th resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Mercer have leave to be absent from the service of this House, for the remainder of the session.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle with a commissioner appointed or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State in acquiring and defending the western territory ; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth ; and on the bills “ for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina ;” “ for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government ;” “ to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth ;” “ for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees ;” “ for imposing certain rates and duties on goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes ;” “ for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs ;” and “ punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers,” being read ;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.  
And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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SATURDAY, January 14, 1786.

A bill, "to dispose of certain waste and unappropriated lands in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse," with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Meriwether Smith presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Simms presented, according to order, a bill "to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators to the several counties in the Northern Neck;'" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Madison reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned,'" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the said bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

Mr. Richard Lee reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the resolutions respecting William Hubbard, to them referred, and had agreed to a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the said William Hubbard was, during the late war, a sergeant in the 1st Virginia regiment, and at the battle of Germantown received a wound in one of his legs, which rendered him unfit for service; in consequence of which he was discharged therefrom.

It further appears to your committee, that since the return of the said Hubbard from the army, and in consequence of his said wound not being properly cured to the northward, that he has been obliged to employ doctors to attend him two different times; that the account of the physician for his last attendance, which continued about two months, and for extracting the ball from the said wound, and other different operations performed by him, amounts to the sum of 39*l.* 14*s.*

It further appears to your committee, that the said Hubbard is in very needy and indigent circumstances.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the sum of 15*l.* ought to be allowed and paid to the said William Hubbard out of the pension fund.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Richard Lee do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Turberville reported, from the committee to whom the books of the Public Foundry at Westham were referred, that the committee had, according to order, examined the same, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

It appears to your committee, that various and considerable sums of money are due from the public to individuals, and from individuals to the public; but from the unsettled state of the accounts, your committee are unable to ascertain the balance due, or to come to a final settlement.

It further appears to your committee, that the Executive are authorised to settle and adjust these accounts.

*Resolved*, therefore, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the Executive be required to cause the final adjustment of the said books and accounts to be made as speedily as possible; to direct the collection of the balances due to the public, and to apportion the sums collected amongst the creditors of the Public Foundry, and that for all balances which may be due to persons from the said Foundry, which cannot be paid from debts due it, the Executive are hereby required to give orders on the auditors of public accounts to issue their warrants for the said balances, all which shall carry an interest of five per cent. per annum, which interest shall be receivable in all taxes within this State; and the Executive are also required to appoint some person to adjust all accounts of the commissioners appointed to erect and manage the said Foundry, and to take such measures therein as shall appear to them just and proper.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Turberville do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the resolution respecting the property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk, was recomitted, that the committee had again, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he



read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, that the property was destroyed in the borough of Norfolk in the month of January 1776, pursuant to an order of the Convention before that time made; that in the May session of Assembly, 1777, an act passed for appointing persons to inquire into and ascertain the value of the property destroyed in the said borough, who in October session of Assembly 1778, made a report of their proceedings therein.

It also appears to your committee, from a certificate of Mr. Joseph Prentis, that the persons engaged in the valuation of the said property, were considered as fixing the real value in specie, and according to his idea, fixed their valuations conformable to the supposed original price of the houses destroyed.

It also further appears to your committee, from the information of Mr. Thomas Matthews, that the valuation of the houses destroyed in the said borough, was made in specie; and that a number of persons, inhabitants of the said borough, are possessed of Loan Office certificates issued for the amount of their respective losses in paper money, and dated during the existence of the depreciation thereof.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee.* That the loan certificates issued for property destroyed in the said borough of Norfolk, ought to be registered by the auditors of public accounts, for the same sum in specie, as is specified in such certificates respectively.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Corbin do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, vesting the estate of Matthew Womble, deceased, in trustees, to be sold for the benefit of his children."

"An act, for establishing a town on the lands of Landon Carter, in the county of Fauquier."

"An act, authorising John Mayo the younger, to build a toll bridge across James river."

"An act, to discharge George Taylor and James Madison from further proceeding on the trust reposed in them by an act of the Legislature."

"An act, for establishing the town of Clarksburg, in the county of Harrison."

"An act, for establishing a town on the lands of Zackquill Morgan, in the county of Monongalia."

"An act, for establishing a town on the land of Smyth Tandy, in the county of Amherst."

"An act, to amend the act, 'concerning pensioners.'"

"An act, for improving the navigation of the South branch of Potomac river."

"An act, to authorise the society of Free Masons in the city of Richmond, to raise a sum of money by way of lottery."

"An act, for establishing a town on the lands of William Mercer, in the county of Stafford."

"An act, for establishing a town on the lands of James Gordon, in the county of Lancaster."

"An act, to authorise the administrator of Alexander Wodrow, deceased, to convey part of a lot of land to Elizabeth Eskridge."

"An act, to approve, confirm, and ratify the compact made by certain commissioners appointed by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, and commissioners appointed by this Commonwealth."

"An act, for re-forming the county courts, and for other purposes."

"An act, to add that part of the county of Yohogania, situate above Cross creek, and between the western boundary of Pennsylvania and the river Ohio, to the county of Ohio."

"An act, concerning the location of certain warrants upon waste and unappropriated lands in the counties of Greenbrier, Harrison, and Monongalia."

"An act, for dividing the county of Washington."

"An act, for establishing a town in the county of Lincoln."

"An act, concerning the erection of the district of Kentucky into an independent State."

"An act, for the re-form of certain public roads."

"An act, for reviving the act, entitled 'an act, to empower the Judges of the General Court to superintend and regulate the public jail.'"

"An act, for appointing trustees to convey a tract of land, the property of Charlotte Dalton, to David Chevis."

"An act, to authorise the trustees of Samuel Du-Val, jun. to sell the one-fifth part of the Deep Run coal-pits, and to lay out the money arising from the sale thereof in other lands and slaves, for the greater benefit of the said Samuel Du-Val, jun. and his children."

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Prentis reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein, but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved,* That the House will, on Monday next, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner,



to settle with a commissioner appointed, or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State, in acquiring and defending the western territory; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the several acts declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth," "for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;'" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and "for punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till Monday next.

And then the House adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

## MONDAY, January 16, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "to dispose of certain waste and unappropriated lands in that part of the State called the Northern Neck;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to dispose of certain waste and unappropriated lands in that part of the State called the Northern Neck."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Simms do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned;'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the amendment proposed by this House to their amendments to the bill "for establishing religious freedom," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "to authorise the election of certain vestries," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth,'" with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House; and "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river.'" And then he withdrew.

A bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A bill "to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators to the several counties in the Northern Neck;'" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to Messrs. Richard Bland Lee, Zane and Tyler.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill "for ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Hanover and Henrico, and for other purposes;" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse;" and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Turberville do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments proposed by the Senate, to the amendment made by the House of Delegates, to the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing religious freedom;" and the same being read, are as follows:

Page 1st, line 1st. Strike out from the word "whereas," to the word "civil," in the 8th line; and insert "Almighty God hath created the mind free, that all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burthens, or by civil incapacitations, tend only to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are a departure from the plan of the Holy Author of our religion, who being Lord both of body and mind, yet chose not to propagate it by coercions on either, as was in his Almighty power to do; that the impious presumption of Legislatures and rulers"

Page 1st, line 27th. Strike out from the words "and abhors"

Page 3d, line 1st. Strike out the words "that the religious opinions of men are not the object of civil government, nor under its jurisdiction."

The first and second amendments being again read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House. The last amendments being again read were, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

Ayes, 53.

Noes, 27.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made by Mr. Zachariah Johnston, and seconded by Mr. Pate;

*Ordered*, That the names of the ayes and noes on the question to agree to the last amendment, be inserted in the Journal.

The names of those who voted in the affirmative are, the Hon. Benjamin Harrison, Esq. Speaker; Thomas Parramore, Samuel Sherwin, Samuel Hawes, John Daniel, Edmund Read, David Patteson, Bernard Markham, Joseph Jones, Miles King, William Gatewood, Meriwether Smith, Charles Simms, Thomas Helm, Elias Wills, Charles Mynn Thruston, Thomas Underwood, Andrew Donnelly, George Clendennin, Isaac Coles, Parke Goodall, Garland Anderson, John Mayo, jun. William Norvell, William Walker, John Roberts, William Thornton, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Temple, Francis Peyton, Richard Bland Lee, Thomas Johnson, Christopher Robertson, Francis Corbin, William Hartwell Macon, Willis Wilson, Daniel Sandford, Abraham Beachum, David Bradford, David Shepherd, James Madison, William Ronald, William Mayo, Edmund Ruffin, Cuthbert Bullitt, Daniel Carroll Brent, Abraham Bird, John Taylor, Richard Cary, Wilson Cary, Richard Lee, Andrew Kincaannon and James Innes.

The names of those who voted in the negative are, Zachariah Johnston, John Trigg, William Anderson, Hickerson Barksdale, Charles Moil Talbot, John Tyler, Henry Southall, French Strother, William Pickett, John Lucas, Edmund Wilkins, Jeremiah Pate, Isaac Vanmiter, John Prunty, William Dudley, William Curtis, Willis Riddick, John Clarke of Prince Edward, Richard Bibb, George Lee Turberville, Andrew Moore, John Hopkins, Gavin Hamilton, Isaac Zane, Carter Bassett Harrison, William Russell and Thomas Matthews.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to a resolution respecting the Loan Office certificates, granted to the proprietors of the property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to amend and reduce into one act, the several laws, for regulating and disciplining the militia, and guarding against invasions and insurrections."

"An act, to suspend the operation of the act, entitled 'an act, for the establishment of Courts of Assize.'"

"An act, vesting the estate of John Tyler, deceased, in trustees for certain purposes."

"An act, for establishing a town on the lands of John Campbell, in the county of Jefferson."

"An act, empowering the Governor, with the advice of the Council, to grant conditional powers in certain cases."

"An act, appropriating certain arrears of public taxes, to the opening a wagon road from the eastern to the western waters."

"An act, concerning public roads."

"An act, for reviving, amending and continuing an act, to revive and amend in part an act, 'for giving further time to enter certificates for settlement rights, and for locating warrants upon pre-emption rights, and for other purposes'"

"An act, for establishing several new ferries."

"An act, to repeal an act, entitled 'an act, concerning entries and surveys on the western waters.'"

"An act, to amend the act, for opening and extending the navigation of Potomac river."

"An act, for giving further powers to the trustees of the town of York."

"An act, to authorise the raising a sum of money by way of lottery, for completing a church in the borough of Winchester, and rebuilding a church in the parish of Elizabeth river, in the county of Norfolk."

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That it be a standing order of this House, that the ayes and nays shall not be taken, until there has been a division and previous count of the members.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "to authorise the election of certain vestries;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Matthews reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made some progress therein; but not having time to go through the same, had directed him to move the House for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said bill.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate to the choice of a commissioner, to settle with one appointed or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State in acquiring and defending the western territory; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and "for the regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## TUESDAY, January 17, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

Mr. Prentis presented, according to order, a bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Mr. Braxton presented, according to order, a bill "to amend the act, to authorise the manumission of slaves;" and the same was received and read the first time; and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time;

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

A bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates;" was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House, to-morrow.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse;" and they have agreed to the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco at Thomas Paxton's in the county of Rockbridge, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap in the county of Hampshire," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to revive an act, entitled 'an act, for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned;" also, to the resolutions for paying a sum of money to William Hubbard; directing a settlement of the accounts of the Public Foundry, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; and respecting a joint application to be made by Virginia and Maryland to Congress, relative to the defence of Chesapeake Bay. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;" and the same being read, were disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Simms reported, from the committee to whom the bill "to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators to the several counties in the Northern Neck;" was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same was again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.



Mr. Bradford presented, according to order, a bill "to ascertain and secure the rights of the inhabitants between the temporary and fixed boundary between the State of Pennsylvania and this Commonwealth;" and the same was received and read the first time; and the question being put, that the said bill be read a second time,

It passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That the bill be rejected.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "for ascertaining part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna;" and that Messrs. Thomson, Underwood and Randolph, do prepare and bring in the same.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act,'" and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Corbin reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made several amendments thereto, which they had directed him to report, when the House should think proper to receive the same.

*Ordered*, That the said report be received to-morrow.

Mr. Thomson presented, according to order, a bill "for ascertaining a part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "for ascertaining a part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

On a motion made,

*Resolved*, That when this House doth adjourn on Saturday next, it will adjourn to the 31st day of March next.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle with one appointed, or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State in acquiring and defending the western territory; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" and "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church,'" being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, January 18, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "for ascertaining a part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for ascertaining a part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators to the several counties in the Northern Neck,'" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators to the several counties in the Northern Neck.'"

*Ordered*, That Mr. Simms do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "for establishing inspections of tobacco at Thomas Paxton's in the county of Rockbridge, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap in the county of Hampshire;" and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the bill "for keeping certain roads in repair," was committed, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That so soon as the copies of the laws allotted to the several counties, other than the counties in Ken-

tucky, shall be printed, the same be distributed under the order of the Executive, by expresses, who shall be paid out of the contingent fund.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Madison do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the public printer be directed to strike off immediately, two hundred copies of the acts "concerning the erection of the district of Kentucky into an independent State;" and "for re-forming the county courts, and for other purposes."

The Speaker laid before the House, a report from the directors of the public buildings, which was read.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, the present state of the funds of this Commonwealth demand the greatest economy in the distribution thereof, and the expenses of government ought to be lessened by every means within the power of the Legislature;

*Resolved*, That the directors and commissioners appointed by an act of Assembly "to dispose of certain public lands and other public property in and near the city of Richmond, and to apply the proceeds of such sale towards erecting the public buildings on Shockoe Hill, agreeably to an act, 'for the removal of the seat of government,'" be directed to postpone any further progress towards completing the said buildings, until the General Assembly shall consider the citizens of this Commonwealth better enabled to defray the expenses of erecting the said public buildings.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House.

*Resolved*. That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the said resolution.

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of the whole House, according to order, the amendments agreed to yesterday, to the bill "to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts for appointing the public revenue, into one act;'" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the register be directed to issue all grants in future from the Land Office, upon parchment.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Simms do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills "for ascertaining a part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna;" and "to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators, to the several counties in the Northern Neck;'" also, to a resolution, directing all grants issued from the Land Office to be made out on parchment. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate to the resolution, directing a settlement to be made of the accounts of the Public Foundry; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Turberville do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate adhere to their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth.'" And then he withdrew.

A motion was made that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay out of the funds appropriated to the claimants for tobacco burnt at the Rocky Ridge warehouse, the sum of 123*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, agreeably to a report made by the commissioners to the present General Assembly.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Patteson do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The House proceeded to reconsider the amendments of the Senate disagreed to by this House, and adhered to by the Senate, to the bill "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to restrict foreign vessels to certain ports within this Commonwealth;'" and the same being read,

*Resolved*, That this House doth adhere to their disagreement to the said amendments.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lynch:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for establishing certain inspections of tobacco," with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments, and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Thomson do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Rutherford:

MR. SPEAKER,—The House have agreed to a bill "punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with

certain powers;" and to a resolution for paying a sum of money to sundry persons for tobacco burnt at the Rocky Ridge warehouse. And then he withdrew.

Mr. Corbin reported, according to order, the amendments agreed to yesterday by the committee of the whole House, to the bill "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" and he read the same in his place, and afterwards delivered them in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, amended and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendments, be engrossed and read the third time.

The orders of the day, for the House to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle with one appointed, or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State in acquiring and defending the western territory; also, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; and on the bills "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina;" "to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;" "for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;" "for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;" "for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;" "for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;" "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;" and "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to revive and amend an act, entitled 'an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates," being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

## THURSDAY, January 19, 1786.

An engrossed bill, "for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Underwood do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "for keeping certain roads in repair;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, for keeping certain roads in repair."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Simms do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, "to amend an act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;" was read the third time, and the blanks therein filled up.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled; and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, for dividing the county of Fayette."

"An act, to provide for the poor of the several counties within this Commonwealth."

"An act, to authorise the election of certain vestries."

"An act, for establishing religious freedom."

"An act, for establishing an inspection of tobacco at Kinsale, and discontinuing that at Rust's warehouse, and for other purposes."

"An act, to revive an act, entitled 'an act, 'for the better regulating and collecting certain officers' fees, and for other purposes therein mentioned."

"An act, for ascertaining a part of the boundary line between the counties of Goochland and Fluvanna."

"An act, to extend the operation of an act, entitled 'an act, concerning escheators to the several counties in the Northern Neck."

"An act, to amend an act, entitled 'an act, for clearing and improving the navigation of James river."

"An act, punishing certain offences, and vesting the Governor with certain powers."

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the state of the Commonwealth; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Braxton reported, that the committee had, according to order, again had the state of the Commonwealth under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the treasurer be directed, with the aid of the solicitor, to



form from time to time abstracts of the several taxes imposed by the revenue laws, specifying the amount thereof on the respective object of taxation, the periods at which the same are to be paid and distrained for, with the proportions of specie, and of the several kinds of public securities receivable in payment; that such abstracts be published in each of the gazettes printed in the city of Richmond, four weeks successively preceding the respective times of collecting; and that the treasurer moreover, transmit six printed copies of the said abstracts to each of the clerks of the respective counties, who shall cause one of them to be fixed up at the courthouse of his county, and the others at such public places as the court shall judge most proper for the information of the people.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the Executive do cause the copies of the laws allotted from time to time to the several counties, to be transmitted thereto as soon as the same shall be printed, in the most speedy and convenient manner; discharging the expense thereof, out of the contingent fund.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the claim of Colonel La Maire, as settled and allowed by the Executive, pursuant to a resolution of the present session of Assembly, be paid in auditors' warrants to the whole amount of the said claim, one-half of which shall be negotiable in payment for any public taxes due for the present year, and the residue in the year 1787.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the several liquidated claims of Rene Rapiquant, of Elie Toutant Bouregard, of Marek, Nephew and Company, and of Thomas Bentley, be placed in the fund set apart for foreign creditors; and that the auditors' certificates or warrants for the same, with such interest as may appear to the Executive to be just, shall be paid out of the said funds, at such time and in such manner, as the Executive shall direct.

*Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee,* That the claims of persons who have lodged money in the treasury, for the purpose of treasury land warrants, never issued to them, be liquidated by the scale of depreciation, and being audited, loan certificates shall be granted for the same, bearing an annual interest of six per centum from the time the money was lodged; warrants for which interest shall be receivable in discharge of public taxes, and be immediately issued for such interest up to the 1st day of January 1786.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Braxton do carry the said resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

*Resolved,* That this House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth.

On a motion made,

*Ordered,* That the committee of the whole House be discharged from further proceeding on the bill "for cutting a navigable canal from the waters of Elizabeth river to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina."

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

Whereas, commissioners have been appointed by authority of the General Assembly, to view and examine the most proper situation for a navigable canal to be cut through the county lying between the waters of Chesapeake and the rivers and water courses which fall into the State of North Carolina; and whereas, it appears from a report of the said commissioners, that the most proper situation for the said canal will be to begin at a creek called New Mill Creek, which empties itself into the southern branch of Elizabeth river, and from the said creek to be carried nearly in a straight direction to a pond in the Dismal Swamp, commonly called Drummond's pond, and from the said pond to Pasquotank river in the State of North Carolina; and it further appears, that the opening of the said canal will promote an intercourse between the inhabitants of this State and the inhabitants of the State of North Carolina, equally advantageous to the people of each State, and that there is great reason to believe the said canal will be opened and made navigable, and a sufficient sum of money for that purpose raised by the subscriptions of private citizens, if an act shall pass authorising them to collect reasonable tolls on vessels and merchandizes passing through the said canal, on terms as nearly similar as circumstances will permit to those prescribed by the laws of this State for opening and extending the navigation of James and Potomac rivers; and whereas, the said canal, if opened and carried to the waters of North Carolina, will extend several miles through the territory of the said State; and it therefore becomes necessary to make application to the said State, to grant their concurrence and aid to such measures as may be deemed proper and necessary to carry the said design into execution:

*Resolved, therefore,* That the Governor of this State shall be, and he is hereby empowered, by and with the advice of the Council of State, to take the most speedy and effectual measures to inform the Executive department of the State of North Carolina, that this State is willing and desirous to open the said canal, and to obtain the concurrence of the said State to the same; and for this purpose, the Governor is directed to appoint one or more commissioners, with advice aforesaid, to confer with a commissioner or commissioners from the State of North Carolina, if the Legislature of the said State shall authorise the same, respecting the opening the said canal, and the terms and conditions on which the same shall be held; and the said commissioner or commissioners, shall be authorised to assure the commissioner or commissioners so appointed by the State of North Carolina, that this State having in contemplation the continuance and intention of that friendly intercourse which hath ever subsisted between the two States, is desirous that all regulations which may be proposed and agreed to, respecting the said canal, and the vessels or merchandize which may pass through the same, shall be on terms reciprocally advantageous to the said States, and to the citizens thereof; and that this State is desirous to stipulate with the State of North Carolina, that no duties or custom shall be imposed in either State for the purpose of raising a revenue for the benefit of either of the said States on any goods, wares or merchandizes, which may pass through the said canal, other than the tolls agreed on to be paid to the persons to whom the property of the said canal may be vested; and the said commissioner or commission-

ers, shall have power to agree with the commissioner or commissioners of the State of North Carolina, in the form of a law agreeably to the principles aforesaid, to be submitted to the Legislatures of each State; and if the same shall be agreed to by the Legislatures of both States, the law shall be perpetual and irrevocable, except by the consent of the Legislatures of this State and the State of North Carolina. The commissioner or commissioners so appointed by the Executive of this State, shall be paid for their services whatever sum the Governor shall, with advice of Council, direct.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bills “for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House; “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue into one act,’ with several amendments, to which they also desire the concurrence of this House; and “for keeping certain roads in repair.” And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Ellzey:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill “for disposing of the waste and unappropriated lands in that part of the State called the Northern Neck,” with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act;’” and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Ronald do acquaint the Senate therewith.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill “for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government;” and the same being read, were agreed to. *Dec 20 181.*

*Ordered*, That Mr. Underwood do acquaint the Senate therewith.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That this House be discharged from further proceeding on the order of the day, to proceed by joint ballot with the Senate, to the choice of a commissioner to settle with a commissioner appointed, or to be appointed by Congress, the expenses incurred by this State in acquiring and defending the western territory.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Governor with the advice of Council, be empowered and directed immediately to appoint an able and fit person to settle with a commissioner appointed, or to be appointed by Congress, the accounts of this State for the expenses incurred in the acquisition and defence of the western territory, in the room of Edward Carlington, Esq. who hath resigned, and to make him such compensation for his services as shall seem just and reasonable.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Tyler do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to the commissioner of the continental Loan Office within this State, as part of this State's quota for the year 1784, the balance of the sum remaining in his hands, which he was directed by a resolution of the present session to exchange for interest certificates upon Loan Office certificates, and other liquidated debts of the United States.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on a motion made, ordered to lie on the table.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bills “to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;” “for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty and ascertaining their fees;” “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares and merchandizes, imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;” “for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;” “for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;” “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;’” and “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act, to revive and amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,’” being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

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FRIDAY, January 20, 1786.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Cabell:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

A motion made, that the House do come to the following resolution:



*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to receive of the sheriff of Rockingham county, all the notes for hemp delivered at the public inspections before the 20th day of April 1784, in discharge of the taxes due from the said county for the year 1783, at the prices allowed by law.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, to establish inspections of tobacco at Crow's ferry, in the county of Botetourt, and on the lands of Thomas Cresap, in the county of Hampshire."

"An act, for keeping certain roads in repair."

"An act, for establishing several inspections of tobacco."

"An act, to amend the act, entitled 'an act, to amend and reduce the several acts, for appropriating the public revenue, into one act.'"

Mr. Corbin reported, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom the resolution upon the petition of James Hendricks was recommitteed, that the committee had, according to order, had the same under their consideration, and had agreed upon a report and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from a letter wrote by Thomas Pickering, quarter-master general, to Richard Claiborne, deputy quarter-master, bearing date February 27th, 1781, that the said Richard Claiborne was required to procure, as soon as possible, a considerable number of draught and fifty riding horses, as well for hauling artillery as for the field and staff-officers of the 1st division, commanded by the Marquis de la Fayette, then on his march to Virginia to co-operate with the ships of our allies in the attempt to take Arnold and his party at Portsmouth.

It appears to your committee, from a letter wrote by the said Richard Claiborne, to the said James Hendricks, bearing date the 3d of March 1781, that the said James Hendricks was requested to procure thirty draught and riding horses, or as many towards that amount as he could; to have them sent to Major Day at Williamsburg in as short a time as possible, and to contract for them in tobacco, or money equivalent, payable in two or three months.

It further appears to your committee, from a letter signed Benjamin Day, A. D. Q. M. dated the 17th of March 1781, to the said James Hendricks, that he had received by Mr. Collins, fifteen horses and thirteen halters on public account, and that the purchase did him much credit.

It also further appears to your committee, from the information of Andrew Dunscomb, commissioner for settling continental accounts in this State, that any person possessed of a certificate bearing the signature of an officer of the United States, authorised to give the same, has the power of exchanging it at his office for one bearing an interest of six per cent. from the date of supply, and that those for the purchase made by Colonel Hendricks, are comprehended.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said James Hendricks, praying that he may be protected from suits brought, and which may be brought against him on account of the purchase of fifteen horses made on behalf of the United States, for the use of the French army in the year 1781, is reasonable.

*Ordered*, That a bill or bills, be brought in pursuant to the said resolution; and that Messrs. Simms, Braxton and Ronald, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Norvell reported, from the committee of Claims, that the committee had, according to order, had under their consideration the petition of George Pickett, to them referred, and had agreed upon a report, and come to a resolution thereupon, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk's table, where the same were again twice read, and agreed to by the House, as followeth:

It appears to your committee, from the deposition of Benjamin Harrison, jun. Esq. late agent for the sale of commutables for this State, that in November 1783, the petitioner purchased of him 11,791 1-2 lbs. of hemp in notes at the warehouses of Falmouth, Richmond and Fredericksburg, for which the petitioner gave him at the rate of 40¢ per ton, in warrants on the military fund; that upon application being made for the hemp stored in the warehouses of Falmouth and Richmond, it was found to be so much damaged by the ice and water as to be unfit for service, and that which was stored at Fredericksburg was detained to pay the warehouse expenses; that from these circumstances he would have refunded to the petitioner his said military warrants paid by him for the said hemp, had not his accounts been finally closed before the petitioner applied to him for that purpose, and the amount of sales paid into the treasury.

It further appears to your committee, from a certificate from Mr. Thomas Prosser, one of the commissioners appointed by the county court of Henrico, to provide warehouses for the receiving and safe keeping of commutables in the city of Richmond; that a great part of the public hemp stored in the house provided by him in the year 1783, was damaged and destroyed by the ice and water, and that he saw a large quantity of it sold at public vendue for the sum of 11¢.

*Resolved*, that it is the opinion of this committee, That the petition of the said George Pickett, praying that the warrants paid by him for the said 11,791 1-2 lbs. of hemp, may be refunded to him, or that other warrants may issue in his favor on the military fund to the amount thereof, upon his returning the notes for the said hemp, is reasonable; and that the auditors issue warrants accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Norvell do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:



MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill “for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government.” And then he withdrew.

The House, according to the order of the day, resolved itself into a committee of the whole House, on the bill “for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty, and ascertaining their fees;” and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Thruston reported, that the committee had, according to order, had the said bill under their consideration, and had gone through the same, and made an amendment thereto, which he read in his place, and afterwards delivered in at the clerk’s table, where the same were again twice read, amended, and agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the bill, with the amendment, be engrossed and read the third time.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker; also, they have agreed to the resolutions for granting certain warrants to George Pickett; directing the treasurer to receive certain notes for hemp of the sheriff of Rockingham; respecting the claim of Rene Rapicault and others; respecting the claim of Col. Le Maire; directing the treasurer to form and publish abstracts of the public taxes; for granting Loan Office certificates to certain persons who have deposited money in the treasury; and for appointing a commissioner to settle the accounts of this Commonwealth for expenses incurred in acquiring and defending the western territory. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Major William Ludeman, late an officer of distinguished merit in the Virginia line, who it is represented is reduced by the rigor of service to a low state of health, and otherwise in great distress for his present support, be allowed the sum of 100*l*. for his present relief, out of any public money in the hands of the treasurer.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the following allowances be made to the officers of the General Assembly for their services during the present session:

To the Rev. William Blagrove, at the rate of, per week,	-	-	-	£ 10 0 0
To Mr. John Beckley, clerk of the House of Delegates, per week,	-	-	-	35 0 0
To Mr. Humphrey Brooke, clerk of the Senate, per week,	-	-	-	17 10 0
To Mr. Edmund Pendleton, clerk of the committees of Privileges and Elections, and Propositions and Grievances, per week,	-	-	-	15 0 0
To Mr. Adam Craig, clerk of the committees of Claims, and Commerce, per week,	-	-	-	12 0 0
To Mr. Charles Hay, clerk of the committees for Religion and Courts of Justice, per week,	-	-	-	12 0 0
To Mr. Freeman Eppes, sergeant at arms to the House of Delegates, per week,	-	-	-	10 0 0
To Mr. William Pierce, sergeant at arms to the Senate, per week,	-	-	-	10 0 0
To William Drinkard, Daniel Hicks, John Hicks and William Drinkard, jun. door-keepers to the House of Delegates, each, per week,	-	-	-	5 0 0
To William Hicks and Thomas Paul, door-keepers to the Senate, each, per week,	-	-	-	5 0 0
To Elizabeth Jones, for cleaning the Assembly House, for the session,	-	-	-	10 0 0

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Braxton do carry the said resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

An engrossed bill, “for appointing officers of the customs, prescribing their duty and ascertaining their fees;” was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, “an act, for better securing the revenue arising from customs.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

The orders of the day, for the House to resolve itself into a committee of the whole House on the state of the Commonwealth; also, on the bills “to amend the several acts, declaring who shall be deemed citizens of this Commonwealth;” “for imposing certain rates and duties upon goods, wares, and merchandizes imported into this Commonwealth, and for other purposes;” “for preventing frauds, and regulating abuses in collecting the revenue arising by customs;” “for the encouraging and increase of shipping and navigation, and for other purposes;” “to amend the act, entitled ‘an act, for incorporating the Protestant Episcopal Church;’” and “to amend an act, entitled ‘an act to revive and amend an act, entitled ‘an act, for calling in and redeeming certain certificates,’ being read;

*Ordered*, That the same be put off till to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o’clock.

SATURDAY, January 21, 1786.

The House proceeded to consider the amendments of the Senate, to the bill "to dispose of certain waste and unappropriated lands in that part of the State, called the Northern Neck;" and the same being read, were amended and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Simms do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Edmund Randolph, James Madison, jun. Walter Jones, Saint George Tucker and Meriwether Smith, Esquires, be appointed commissioners, who, or any three of whom, shall meet such commissioners as may be appointed by the other States in the Union, at a time and place to be agreed on, to take into consideration the trade of the United States; to examine the relative situations and trade of the said States; to consider how far a uniform system in their commercial regulations may be necessary to their common interest and their permanent harmony; and to report to the several States, such an act relative to this great object, as, when unanimously ratified by them, will enable the United States in Congress, effectually to provide for the same.

That the said commissioners shall immediately transmit to the several States, copies of the preceding resolution, with a circular letter requesting their concurrence therein, and proposing a time and place for the meeting aforesaid.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions, for paying a sum of money to William Ludeman: and for making the allowances to the officers of the Assembly for their services during the present session. And then he withdrew.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Loyall:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "for better securing the revenue arising from customs," with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. King do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Executive take measures for collecting and disposing of all the field-pieces and artillery belonging to the State, in such manner as they shall judge best for the public defence in case of necessity, and to cause them to be put and kept in proper order, for immediate service; the expense whereof shall be defrayed out of the contingent fund.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Corbin do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the treasurer be directed to pay to the commissioner of the continental Loan Office within this State, as part of this State's quota, for the year 1784, the balance of the sum remaining in his hands, which he was directed by a resolution of the present session to exchange for the interest certificates upon Loan Office certificates, and other liquidated debts of the United States.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

It appearing to the House, that several persons have failed to receive their money in Loan Office certificates, for property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk, in the year 1776;

*Resolved*, That the auditors be directed to issue Loan Office certificates to such persons as are entitled thereto, for property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk, agreeably to the resolution of the 14th instant.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Matthews do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lee:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolutions requesting the Executive to collect and secure the field-pieces and other artillery belonging to the State; and directing the auditors to issue Loan Office certificates to certain persons, for property destroyed in the borough of Norfolk; also, they do insist on their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the bill "for securing the revenue arising from customs." And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to reconsider the said amendments; and the same being read,

*Resolved*. That this House doth recede from their disagreement to the said amendments.

*Ordered*, That Mr. King do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That any person who has served in the armies of the United States, from the 1st day of May 1779, until the close of the late war between America and Great Britain, and who has proved his right to and obtained a certificate from some county court, for a land warrant under the proclamation made by the King of Great Britain, in the year 1763, may receive the same from the register of the Land Office; which warrant he shall be permitted to locate on any vacant lands reserved by an act of Assembly, on the eastern side of the river Ohio, for the officers and soldiers of this Commonwealth on continental and State establishments.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zachariah Johnston do carry the resolutions to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for appointing certain commissioners to meet and confer with such commissioners as may be appointed by the other States in the Union, upon the subject of the trade of the U. States, with several amendments, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, some were agreed to, and others disagreed to.

*Ordered*, That Matthews do acquaint the Senate therewith.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Anderson:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate recede from their amendments disagreed to by this House, to the resolution for appointing commissioners to take under their consideration, with such commissioners as may be appointed by the other States in the Union, the trade of the United States. And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That Mr. John Beckley, clerk of this House, be allowed 10*l*. per week, during the present session, for the services of two additional clerks; and also for his own extra services out of sessions, in supervising the printing and publication of the Revised Code of laws, and the collection of laws now in force prepared by the Judges of the High Court of Chancery.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, disagreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in a bill "to impose additional tonnage on British vessels;" and that Messrs. Page, Ronald and King, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. Page presented, according to order, a bill "to impose additional tonnage on British vessels;" and the same was received and read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

A bill, "to impose additional tonnage on British vessels;" was read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed and read the third time.

An engrossed bill, "to impose additional tonnage on British vessels;" was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the bill do pass; and that the title be, "an act, to impose additional tonnage on British vessels."

*Ordered*, That Mr. Page do carry the bill to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the bill "to impose additional tonnage on British vessels." And then he withdrew.

A motion was made, that the House do come to the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to the delegates of this Commonwealth in Congress, to use their utmost influence with that honorable body, that immediate and effectual measures be taken for negotiating and entering into treaties of amity and friendship with the several independent maritime States of Africa on the Mediterranean and Atlantic seas; and moreover, to obtain and procure such naval protection to the courts of the United States, as their preservation and safety require.

And the said resolution being twice read was, on the question put thereupon, agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do carry the resolution to the Senate, and desire their concurrence.

On a motion made,

*Ordered*, That the reports from the several standing committees of this House, which lie on the table, be referred to the next session of Assembly.

Mr. Smith reported, from the committee appointed to examine the enrolled bills, that the committee had, according to order, examined several others to them referred, and found them to be truly enrolled.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Smith do carry the said bills to the Senate, for their examination.

A message from the Senate by Mr. Brown:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have examined several other enrolled bills, and find them to be truly enrolled, and they are signed by their Speaker. And then he withdrew.

The Speaker signed the following enrolled bills:

"An act, for regulating and fixing the salaries of the officers of civil government."

"An act, for disposing of the waste and unappropriated lands within this Commonwealth, on the eastern waters."

"An act, for better securing the revenue arising from customs."

"An act, for imposing an additional tonnage on British vessels."

A message from the Senate by Mr. Jones:

MR. SPEAKER,—The Senate have agreed to the resolution, for instructing the delegates from this State, to move in Congress that treaties of amity may be immediately entered into between the United States and the several independent maritime States on the Mediterranean and Atlantic seas, with several amendments; to which they desire the concurrence of this House. And then he withdrew.

The House proceeded to consider the said amendments; and the same being read, were agreed to.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Zane do acquaint the Senate therewith.

And then the House adjourned until the 31st day of March next.

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